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❖ CHRISTMAS TELEVISION PULL-OUT



Discovered: The first tourists to hit the West End

David Keys Archaeology Correspondent

Dramatic evidence of the first great Viking attacks on London has been unearthed by archaeologists digging at on the site of the extension to the Royal Opera House in Covent

Excavations have revealed a 190ft-long stretch of fortifica-tions which once bristled with sharpened stakes on which the Londoners hoped the attacking Vikings would impale them-

Before the Viking attacks, most of London's 3,000-5,000 people lived in what is now the West End of the capital - not too many traffic jams then. Indeed, Londoners probably did not realise they were trying to protect themselves against a race which worshipped a version of Santa Claus - Odin used to fly on horseback distributing presents to children.

But the archaeological evidence suggests London's Anglo-Saxon defenders were more worried that the Vikings would engage in raping and pillaging. They built a rampart, probably complete with wooden palsade, and dug a 17ft-wide 7ftdeep V-shaped ditch, the inner face of which was arrayed with lethal wooden stakes.

The Covent Garden discoveries suggest that at the time of the first Viking assault, Anglo-Saxon London, known as Lundenwic, was defended by up to two-thirds of a mile of de-fences. The first Viking attack occurred in AD842 and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle says there was a "great slaughter" in London. Tragically, it seems the defences being unearthed by the archaeologists were not strong enough to hold back

Evidence from the excavations reveals at least part of Luntime. Evidence of occupation in the Covent Garden area appears to cease in the 840s. And archaeologists have found several burned buildings, some of which may have been destroyed

during the attack.

Viking raids continued in the London and Home Counties area for decades, and the insecurity caused some wealthier Londoners to hide their money, by burying it in the ground.

Just such a cache, the fourth central-London coin hoard known from this period, has been unearthed in the Covent

Garden excavation. Unusually, it consisted of 23 silver alloy coins minted in the kingdom of Northumbria in the 840s, and it probably belonged to an Anglo-Saxon mer-chant who hid it in the 850s or

860s and presumably perished before he could retrieve it. The Covent Garden excavation, led by the Museum of London archaeologists Gordon Malcolm, David Bowsher and Bob Cowie, is also yielding an unprecedented quantity of information about early Anglo-

Saxon London. About 2500 square metres of Anglo-Saxon Lundenwic have now been excavated at the Opera House site, an archaeological investigation which has produced 3,000 pottery shards, 100,000 pieces of animal bone and 800 bone, antier, glass and other artefacts.

For the first time, archaeologists have been able to see how early Anglo-Saxon London was laid out. The excavations suggest Lundenwic was laid out on a grid system, with wellmaintained, gravelled 3-to-4mwide north-south streets ap-parently connected by equally wide though less well-

QUICKLY

Politicians and clergy tried to

keep the lid on the security sit-

Plea for calm

vfor-tat violence.



Rampant raiders: King Alfred's galleys engaging the Viking dragon ships in battle in 897

Photograph: Mary Evans I how that happened. He dis-

Gulf troops given secret injections

Exclusive

Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent

British troops in the Gulf War were given secret, still unidentified injections against biological warfare agents. Yet MPs were subsequently assured that all those administered had been disclosed.

The Independent has learnt that "five or six" injections were given which the Ministry of Defence has still not acknowledged. Campaigners fighting for Gulf War illness to be recognised fear that some of the inections could have been experimental.
The injections were not

recorded on the troops' medical documents and the RAF medical expert appointed to inves-tigate the "illness" - who has since been moved to other duties - was unaware of them.

Two weeks ago, Nicholas coarnes, the Armed Forces Minster, told Parliament he was launching a £1.3m programme to find out the cause of the mysterious ailments which have affected 1,200 Gulf veterans. It is widely believed that the varcaused by exposure to organophosphate pesticides, by tablets taken as a precaution against chemical weapons, by the cocktail of injections against biological warfare agents given in a short period of time, or by

a combination of those factors. Mr Soames admitted that the MoD had misinformed him on the extent to which organophos-phates had been used and has also launched an inquiry into

closed that troops had been inoculated against four known biological warfare agents: anthrax. pertussis, bubonic plague and otulinum toxin.

But in a private session of the House of Commons Select Committee on Defence, a Labour MP asked the Surgeon-General, Vice-Admiral Tony Revell, how many vaccinations the MoD did not admit to. He replied that the number was about five or six. The vaccinations against plague, anthrax, pertussis and botulinum toxin had already been discussed. Lawyers for the Gulf veterans believe the "five or six" secret

vaccinations were in addition to

the four already discussed. Dr David Clark, Labour's defence spokesman, last night demanded all remaining details of the vaccinations be revealed. He told The Independent; "I find this appalling. The Government must now come completely clean about what went on and ought to step up its efforts to find out what happened to these men and women. All drugs used in the Gulf ought to be declassified." Dr Clark has written to Mr Soames asking for an explanation, but last night the information about vaccinations

given to Gulf troops. Question marks over the MoD line arose after inquiries by Shaun Rusling, 37, a former medic with 32 Field Ambulance who was based at the main hospital intended to handle chemical and biological casu-

miles from the Iraqi border. He is suffering a form of Gulf to work. He received a letter establishment, for analysis.

Brigadier McDermott of the Army's medical directorate saying some of the injections he had been given were classified secret and were therefore not recorded. However, the use of plague, anthrax and pertussis vaccines was widely known - it was reported in the press at the time - and had been declassified before the brigadier wrote his letter. The secret vaccines

were something else. Mr Rusling's solicitors con tacted Group Captain Bill Coker, the RAF doctor initially given the task of investigating Gulf War illness. He said he knew of no vaccines that had not been declared or which were classified secret. He knew about plague, anthrax and pertussis vaccines and said that if there were any others he wanted to know about them. He has now been transferred to other work, in the field of aviation medicine, but the House of Commons defence committee has put it on record that it wants to carry on

using his expertise. Mr Rusling said that because he was a medic he received more injections than were given to ordinary troops. Most rehe says he had 24.

Kirsten Limb, a scientist working with solicitors representing some of the Gulf veterans, said a number of veterans reported having blood samples taken after they received injections described only as "biological warfare" alties in Wadi al-Batin, about 10 and being told the samples were being sent to Porton Down, the Government's bio-War illness and is no longer fit logical and chemical defence

Hebron awaits Christmas deal

Eric Silver Jerusalem

After a day of intensive diplomatic activity, Israeli and Pales-tinian negotiators were tying the final knots last night on a Christmas parcel that will remove Israeli troops from most of He-bron, the last West Bank Arab town still under occupation.

Israel radio reported all the outstanding issues had been resolved. A Palestinian minister, Jamil Tarifi, said: "We expect an agreement tonight. I hope so." The terms were due to be sealed at a summit meeting later between the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, and the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat.

The Israeli redeployment is nine months overdue. It was postponed after "Islamist" suicide bombings killed dozens of Israelis in February and March.
The right-wing Likud government, which came to power in June, attempted to strengthen wide though less well-maintained east-west streets. 450 Jewish settlers living in the September.





old town amid 150,000 Arabs. The agreement, brokered by the United States, will restore much of the goodwill which has been dissipated by Mr Netanyahu's patronising approach to the Palestinians, and by the bloody exchanges of fire between Israeli troops and Palestinian police in

It will open the way to further Israeli withdrawals under the interim Oslo accords, and to negotiations for a definitive settlement of the Israeli-

Palestinian conflict. As a confidence-building measure, Israel yesterday in-creased the number of permits for Palestinian day labourers to

Coming to terms: Palestinian President Arafat (left) and the US mediator Dennis Ross work in Israeli farms, factories and building sites from 42,000

to 50,000. The final push towards the Hebron agreement was given by the US mediator, Dennis Ross, during a long night of talks with the Israeli and Palestinian teams on Sunday. Technical teams then met again yesterday.

The level was raised in the afternoon, when Mr Netanyahu and Mr Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas, joined the nego-tiators. The full teams met in the historic King David hotel in Jerusalem for two hours. Then Mr Netanyahu and Mr Abbas talked *tête-à-tête* for half ar hour. Both sides reported progress. Mr Abbas reported back to Mr Arafat in Gaza. Mr Netanyahu briefed his foreign and defence ministers, David

Levy and Yitzhak Mordechai. Although the details were still under wraps, the parties are believed to have agreed on a main draft and accompanying letters. There is expected to be a US letter of guarantee.

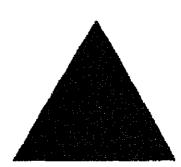
According to reports, Israel will withdraw in stages from a disputed road linking the Arab and Jewish parts of town. In return, the Palestinians will widen a buffer zone around the Jewish enclaves. New regulations are said to have been agreed on the arms that the two

Ideological revolution, page 6

CONTENTS



Turkey, broken fairy lights, relatives, turkey, chitty chitty, bang bang, relatives.



Yo-ho-ho.



Basis BEST SELLING PREMIUM CASK ALE SINCE 1777

Fare deals that go off the rails

Christian Wolmar

vation in Ulster following titfares, do not ask the national en-quiry bureau. Or any of the pri-vatised train companies. Back on Boxing Day There will be no Independent to-According to a survey by the Libmorrow, but we will be back on eral Democrats, the enquiry sys-Boxing Day with an issue in tem for the railways has become which our writers look back on the "second lottery" because moments that made the year.

the information is so inaccurate. for Christmas in Glasgow from London and coming back after Hogmanay may be quoted £58 return. Or, if they are a bit unluckier, they will be told it is £72. £120.30 but the best offer was Or £135. The same goes for a with the national bureau which

ranged from £31 to £77.

According to the survey, the National Rail Enquiries Bureau and the train operators gave identical information on only one of ten routes. The survey, involving 150 requests, revealed that the same operators gave dif-For example, those heading ferent prices for identical journeys and the national bureau

On Leeds to Rugby, Cross

Country trains quoted £80.30 to

to Ipswich, on which answers bureau does not sell tickets. And from the national bureau on West Coast InterCity, no price was available since its number remained unanswered despite 25 attempts.

No one was available to answer calls yesterday at the offices of the Association of Train Operators, which runs the national enquiry service set up this year to ensure that impartial information is given out. frequently contradicted itself.

The Liberal Democrats blame privatisation and the failure of the rail regulator to enforce the rules. David Chidgey, the party's transport spokesman,

day return from Southampton quoted £64. Unfortunately, the said: "Britain's ticket enquiry system is Britain's second lottery. The information is so inconsistent that I am writing to ask the National Rail Enquiries Bureau to answer publicly the questions we have been trying to find an answer to."

David Charlesworth, who conducted the survey, sought help from the Consumers' Association, but all they could add was that there was just one person in the country with the answers - a rail timetable consultant called Barry Doe who lives on the south coast. And his phone number remains a secret

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B;

to

ap ru

significant shorts

Redwood urges

The former Cabinet minister John Redwood was attacked

last night for urging unity in

A senior government source accused Mr Redwood

of "check" for alleging that

This chap has done more to

divide the party than the rest of us put together," the source said. "The most helpful thing he could do is

Mr Redwood, who last

Cabinet to stand against John

shut up for Christmas."

rear resigned from the

leadership, said: "Unity, unity, should be the Conservative cry this

Christmas. We need a

Christmas truce, which

extends through the New

Year and to the election. He said the party needed to remember that there were

more things that united its

Charge over

A 32-year-old man was

yesterday charged with the murder of Russell Christie,

the younger brother of the former Olympic 100m sprint champion Linford Christie.

reappear before Marylebone

magistrates on 30 December

1996. No application for bail

hospital on Friday from stab

wounds to his neck after

police had found him in Notting Hill, west London.

Russell Christie, 34, died in

remanded in custody

Simon Williams,

unemployed, of no fixed

abode, was ordered to

members than divided them.

Christie killing

Major for the Tory

blame for party divisions.

party unity

the Tory party.

Prayers for missing girl



The family of the missing nine-year-old Kayleigh Ward were yesterday praying for her to be reunited with them

But police continued a massive hunt in the Blacon area of Chester, detectives said that her "streetwise" nature could put her in even

greater danger.
Over 70 officers, including dog-handlers and an underwater search team were involved in the hunt for the youngster, and among the targets of the search was a canal near her home,

Kayleigh disappeared after going to buy chips from a Chinese chip shop 900 yards from her home at about 6pm

Briton drowns

A British man has drowned while swimming in the sea off the holiday island of Gran Canaria, the Foreign Office confirmed yesterday.

David James Baron, 34, drowned as a strong undercurrent swept through the water at El Taurito, Gran Canaria. Mr Baron is believed to have come from the north-west of England.

Pensioner held Hogmanay in guns raid

A 70 year-old man was being questioned by police last night after a raid on a house in which pistols, sub-machine guns, ammunition and equipment for making

ammunition were seized. Officers swooped on the house in Wavertree. Liverpool following a tip-off. The man was taken to Huyton police station for questioning.

goes flat A major event in Edinburgh's Hogmanay celebrations has

been cancelled because of safety concerns. The World Party, featuring DJs from all over the world, was to take place at

Meadowbank Sports Centre. But the promoters raised concerns after a fire alarm went off four times at another event at the venue a the weekend.

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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Prison is just a holiday camp

Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

A former Pontin's holiday camp is to be converted into a makeshift jail to help cope with the overcrowding crisis, under pro-posals announced yesterday. highly placed sources were to

It also looks likely that a floating prison will be brought over from New York and moored in Portland Harbour, Dorset, within the next two months.

The proposals have been forced on officials by the disDoncaster into an emergency overspill jail will be postponed or scrapped because of local op-

The Prison Service announced yesterday that it has lodged a planning application to use a former holiday camp at Heysham in Lancashire to house up to 700 low-risk in-mates. Until two years ago, the 62-acre site resounded to the cries of Hi-De-Hi!

The camp consists of a large number of two-person chalets closure yesterday that plans to and would need a security fence convert a former RAF base near erected around it before it the Hudson River near New

And Richard Tilt, the Di-rector General of the Prison Service, told The Independent yesterday that there had been a "positive" reaction from the local authority about the plan to ship over a former floating jail from the United States to

Mr Tilt said he was hopeful that the Resolution, currently on

could open as a jail. The Prison
Service hopes to have part of the camp operational by May, but this will depend on obtaining support from the local council.

York, could be in use to hold up to 400 low-risk prisoners in Britain by mid February. The vessel, which Mr Tilt described as a "block of flats on a ponas a "block of flats on a pon-toon" is a purpose-built jail and includes workshops and ex-

ercise facilities. The emergency jails are needed, he said, to cope with the rising prison population which is expected to reach 58,000 by the end of January, as Michael Howard's emphasis on tougher sentencing bites. Unless extra space is found by February, inmates will have to be housed in

Prison Service's over-crowding problems were compounded vesterday by the news that Doncaster Council was objecting to the proposals to convert a former RAF base at Finningley into a jail. Prison officials will now appeal to the Department of the Environment and a

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary, of the National Association of Probation Officers (Napo), said: "The idea of buying a holiday camp is an act

lengthy public inquiry seems

to be strong local objections. "Ministers will have to fac the possibility of reducing th

prison population or deal wit the daunting consequences. Napo also disclosed yesterd: that the Home Secretary's plan for five child jails - announce in 1993 - for up to 200 twelv to 15-year-old persistent o fenders were in disarray. N work has yet begun on the se cure training centres and plar for all five have run into plar ning difficulties.

Appeal for calm in tense N Ireland

David McKittrick Ireland Correspondent

Politicians, clergymen and others in Northern Ireland yester-

day sought anxiously to keep the lid on the security situation in the wake of the recent IRA and loyalist violence in Belfast. But there was little sign of any essening of apprehension that more violence would follow from either or both sources, and

few indications that the violent organisations were deciding to pull back from the brink. There was some hope, however, that the seasonal three-day ceasefire, which was traditional before the 1994 cessations of vi-

Eddie Copeland, the republican injured in a loyalist boobytrap explosion in Ardoyne on Sunday, was yesterday recovering in hospital. Politicians and clergy, meanwhile, appealed for

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

An Ulster Unionist split

widened yesterday when the

party's lone European MP

switched from the pro-EU European People's Party to Sir James Goldsmith's Europe of Nations group in the Euro-pean Parliament.

After David Trimble, the

party leader, formally an-

nounced the controversial de-

cision yesterday, the deputy

leader John Taylor distanced

"It was mentioned vaguely to

me about 10 days ago that there

were talks ongoing, but I wasn't

aware that any decision had been reached," he told BBC

Radio's World at One. "I have

since discovered that the Euro-

pean policy committee of our

party didn't know about it either."

himself from the move.

olence, might provide a cooling-

diate cycle of violence, which began on Friday night when an IRA gunman shot and wounded a police officer in a Belfast children's hospital.

The Copeland attack, which is regarded as retaliation for the hospital shooting, is thought to have been the work of the illegal Ulster Defence Association. The organisation has not, however, formally admitted responsibility for the bombing.

Gary McMichael of the

UDA's political arm, the Ulster Democratic Party, refused to condemn the attack, saying: "I am not going to get into this sort of long drawn out and long. standing choreography about condemnation. We must recognise is that every violent event in Northern Ireland is truly tragic and we must do everything in our power to ensure there is no more violence."

Deal with Goldsmith

splits Ulster Unionists

Mr Taylor also warned that

his party's representative on the EU Committee of the Regions,

in Brussels, might now have to

leave the European People's Party, the group to which the Conservative Party belongs.

Europe, which was a member of

the mainstream centre-right

grouping is now going to be with

a very small group of only 17

members in the European Par-

liament, and should that group disappear, we're going to be left

about two other elements of the

wielded by Sir James and his

UK Referendum Party, and

the money that was reported to

be in it for the Ulster Unionists.

Following speculation that Sir

James would pay the Ulster surance that i Unionists up to £250,000 for the ness as usual.

package - the influence to be

Doubts were also raised

totally isolated."

It means that the UUP in

much of their value if they distanced themselves too far from their paramilitary associates. His attitude echoed the position taken by the Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, who,

while regretting the hospital shooting refrained from condemning it.
Mr Adams said: "I want to see all of the armed groups showing restraint, and I want to see people enjoying a peaceful Christmas. I also want to appeal to people right across the po-

litical spectrum to fill the vac-um which has been created." The Catholic Primate of All Ireland, Archbishop of Armagh Sean Brady, said he was still hopeful that recent events had been "only a temporary setback".

Archbishop Robin Eames, the Anglican Primate of All Ireland, said loyalist groups should realise that their political representatives Loyalist sources argue pri-vately that groups such as Mr sionanditheir cause would be weakhad been making a great impres-McMichael's party would lose ened by a return to violence.

peared much less clear-cut.

Sir James said: "We wanted

to inform and create a debate,

and obtain a referendum, ob-

viously for all the people of the

UK. Therefore, we had allo-

cated a certain amount of pro-

motional funds for Northern

Ireland." Asked if those funds

would go directly to the UUP,

he said: "No. They will go from

us directly to the cause of ob-

Mr Trimble said in Belfast that

the arrangement was European,

and would give Sir James no in-

fluence at Westminster. "There

Given the importance of the

nine-strong Unionist vote in the

Commons, government whips

will be pleased with the reassurance that it would be busi-

Referendum Party," he said.

taining a referendum."

Tracey Andrews, accused of killing her boyfriend, after her release from prison

Woman in road rage case freed on bail for Christmas

Tracey Andrews, the former model accused of stabbing to death her boyfriend Lee Harvey who she says was a road-rage victim, was yesterday freed on bail to spend Christmas with her family.

Ms Andrews, 27, will spend Christmas with her family after the prosecution failed to overrule last Friday's decision by magistrates to grant her bail.

Her step-father Alan Carter said later that the family were 'relieved" she would be with them over Christmas.

Ms Andrews had been held at Eastwood Park women's home in Alvechurch, near the prison near Gloucester after the spot where Mr Harvey died.

prosecution challenged the magistrate's decision. She is charged with murder-

He died from almost 40 stab wounds in an isolated country lane near the couple's home in Alvechurch, Worcestershire. Ms Andrews, who was charged with the killing last week, denies any involvement,

and has said her boyfriend was killed by a man who was a passenger in a Ford Sierra car

during a road rage type incident. A condition of the bail is that she will return to her parents'

Ms Andrews' solicitor, Tim Robinson, said she would be spending Christmas at home with her family and daughter.

ing Mr Harvey on 1 December. He said a significant new 🖤 witness in the case had come forward, following stories in the press. "She is grateful to members of the press for the response to the appeal which has been made. Already one very significant witness has come forward," he said. Ms Andrews is due to appear again before magistrates on February 14.

Mr Carter, married to Tracey's mother Irene, said: "We are just so relieved that she is coming home."

Lloyds Bank customers use TSB cash machines?



Weather forecast ndependent **Weatherlin**e Construes Day will be cold and surny in most with patchy cloud and spells of weak wintry sunchine. However eastern coastal counties of Scotland and England will have more in the way o places with a widespread hard frost early and late, but there is still the chance of a few light snow showers in easiern England, and there may be cloud and pertraps a lew light hall, siget or snow showers, but amounts of annow should be trivial. Southern Britan will again have a brisk north-eas ward which will make it be! bitself cold, but the north will have much lighter winds. Out and about with AA Boadwa

ACROSS S American country (4) Overhanging parts of Thick (5) roof (5) Polluted (7) Municipal (5) 10 Suffer (7) Cheat (6-7) 11 Indecorous (8) Unclothed figure (4) Made of clay (7) Back of neck (6) 12 Closed (4) 13 Item of office equip-Fortified wine (4) ment (6.7) Object of ridicule (4) Precise (7) 18 Billboard (8) Men's hairdressers (7) Garments for legs (6) Explosive device (4) Nobleman (7) Israeli resort (5) 23 Stratum (5) Snow house (5)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

20 Feeble (4)

24 Before long (4)

ACROSS: 1 Plannner, 5 Terry (Planetary), 8 Plume, 9 Pfennig, 10 Redress, 11 Coypu, 12 Sorbet, 14 Despot, 17 Focal, 19 Arizona, 22 Rebuth, 23 Amass, 24 Nacre, 25 Methane, DOWN: 1 Paper, 2 Asunder, 3 Niece, 4 Repast, 5 Treacle, 6 Rangy, 7 Yoghurt, 12 Saffron, 13 Enlarge, 15 Pro rata, 16 Fathom, 18 Cubic, 20 Inapt, 21 Aisle.

Notes

HT 7.0 91 129 7.2 36 4.1 . 16.05 13.23 23 06 18.58 17.56 ...15.53 15.42 06.33 08.31 12.07 11.18 06 46 SUR and moon 🌂 Sen rases

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news

Disney's spotted dogs breed a rash of puppy love

Demand for sporty dog puppies has soared since the pre-Christmas release of the video of the original Disney animated car-toon of 101 Dalmatians and the new film version.

Figures released by the Kennel Club, the registry organisation for pedigree dogs, show that there has been a 200 per cent increase in enquiries about the breed since the video was re-Heased last September.

With the film version now on general release in Britain, the news sparked fears among animal groups yesterday that the public would be seduced into buying a Dalmatian puppy after seeing the film, only to find out months later that they cannot handle the highly strung

The Kennel Club said that in the three months previous to October they had received around 90 telephone calls asking for details of non-commercial Dalmatian breeders. However, in the three months since, they have been bombarded with 270 calls on the same subject.

The increase has been astounding, but it was something which we were expecting," Brian Leonard, a spokesman for the organisation, said. "It's the ame story for any breed which is highlighted in a film or television advertisement.

"After the Andrex advert [for lavatory paper] was released we were immediated with calls about yellow labradors and soon after the Politix paint advert we were spokesman said. inundated with calls about English sheendogs.

quiries turn into purchases, people know what they are letting themselves in for. A Dalmatian is a lively, demanding animal, not a couch potato

One non-commercial breeder, based in Gillingham, Kent, who did not want to be named, said that her Dalmatian bitch gave birth to a litter of 11 puppies last October. Since then, she has sold them all and has had to turn away around 20

Worried about the threat of reckless owners over Christmas, however, she has refused to let the new owners pick up their purchases until after the festive

"Usually I'd keep the puppies for eight weeks but in this case I'm going to keep them for nine," she said yesterday. "I've also had to operate a stringent vetting process as I've had a number of idiots ringing up who quite obviously are not serious owners but have just seen the film and think it would be novel to have one. The National Canine De-

fence League, which is running a Christmas campaign warning people to be beware of going "Dalmatian Crazy", was brac-ing itself for an influx of unwanted puppies after the Christmas period.

"What is particularly disturbing about these figures is the amount of people making formal enquiries when the majority of would-be owners will probably purchase them from commercial puppy farms," a

"A lot of animal groups could" have some real problems on



Spotty dog fever: 101 Dalmations has fuelled demand, but what will happen to puppies such as this two-day-old when the novelty wears of?

pending set to break records

Steve Boggan

Sales in some parts of the country were more than 10 per cent up on last year as fine weather brought out last-minute shoppers in their millions.

In the North, the MetroCentre in Gateshead reported business as "very very busy"; at the Meadowhall Shopping Centre near Sheffield, manageme said there were 16.6 per cent more shoppersonal designation of the vast Lakeside Shopping Centre in Thurrock, Essex, customers were spending an average of

and in London retailers expected to asked if they can camp outside." break all records. "We've had the best Christmas since 1987," said Martin Bar-Shops and stores yesterday hailed the Christmas rush as the best for nine years.

nett, of the Marble Arch Retailers' Aschristmas rush as the best for nine years.

sociation in London's West End.

Buzz Lightyear, the computer-generated hero of the Disney film Toy Story, continued to be the most popular and problematical - buy. With shops cleaned out of the plastic astronaut, lastminute deliveries were expected to cause chaos inside stores.

"People are continuously coming in and asking for them," said a spokeswoman for the Disney Store in London's Regent Street. "If the toys come in they will go straight on the shelves for sale. It has been frantic, shoppers have even

Although good for shoppers, the dry, icy weather caused a crop of minor shunts on Britain's roads, particularly in Scotland. Motoring organisations urged drivers to be cautious today in preparation for the anticipated exodus from cities to the countryside.
The AA and the RAC said problems

were caused yesterday not by the volume of traffic but by the weather conditions. "It's extremely quiet for a Monday morning and it looks like loads of people are taking Christmas week off," an RAC spokeswoman said.

Around 2 million people are expected to fly out of the country during the two-week holiday period, but meteorologists said many could be in for a disappointing time. According to the London Weather Centre, the Canary Islands, Spain, North Africa and Portugal are enduring some the worst and wettest

During the past week, parts of Spain have been flooded. Malaga had 218mm of rain, compared with its seasonal average of 62mm. Gibraltar has had a drenching with 277mm, compared with the average of 150mm. And in Moroc-co, Casablanca had 158mm, compared with the usual 94mm.

There were hopes last night that the weather was improving on the Continent, with drier spells and higher temperatures

Girl, 6, killed by tree lights

A six-year-old girl was electrocuted in front of her family when she switched on the

Christmas tree lights.
Police and Yorkshire Electricity staff are investigating the accident which killed Cara Weatherstone in Hornsea, East Yorkshire.

Her parents, Beverley, 38, and Anthony, 40, and six brothers and sisters, agod between 15 months and 18, were all with her in the living room when it hap-pened, on Saturday.

It is understood Cara stood with her bare foot on a copper gas pipe running round the room to switch on the lights. which were plugged into a table

The family had put up the fir tree last week and Cara had switched on the lights on previous occasions. The investigation will centre on whether there was a fault with the arrangement.

"It all so happened so quickly," George Weatherstone, her 67-year-old grandfather, said yesterday.

"The current grabbed Cara. Her sister Fiona tried to push her off and got a tingle herself and then Cara fell off. The whole family saw it, but could do nothing

Police and ambulance were called but Cara, a pupil at Hornsea Infants School, was pronounced dead on arrival at Hull Royal Infirmary.

Mr Weatherstone said that Cara's father, his son - who works for East Riding Social Services - and her mother were devastated.

"Anthony and Beverley are in terrible state. It's such a

tragedy," he said.
"Poor little Cara. She had turned the lights on so many times before, it was just unfortunate that she had her bare foot on the gas pipe. She was earthed and could not be thrown off by the electric shock.

A Humberside police spokes-woman said: "Extensive inquiries revealed that the incident appeared to have been a tragic accident."

"I just hope that if these en- their hands in the New Year." £130 - a 10 per cent increase on last year; It's Wednesday the 25th: just another working day

There are far more people than you think working over the Christmas holiday, writes **Clare Garner**

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NIG & F

Invited. 14 5 E.S

The second secon

More than 10 million of the nation's workers may have downed tools for a 14-day Christmas and New Year holiday, but many others will not even get Christmas Day off.

And it won't just be police officers, publicans, water inspectors, charity workers, vicars, firemen, taxi drivers,

doctors and hospital staff. "There are more people working than you would imagine," said a spokeswoman for the Confederation of British Industry. "People think of train and bus drivers, but I don't think any of them are operating. It is the botels, catering, pubs, utilities, emergency services, lorry drivers and farmers. Since the sales start on Boxing Day we reckon there will probably be people getting the shops ready on Christmas Day." Both the Labour and Con-

servative Party have press offi-cers on duty, although a spokeswoman for the Labour Party went to great pains to insist: "The Labour Party believes people should have the right to enjoy Christmas."
Jo Moore, 33, the Labour

Party press officer who has drawn the short straw, said: Stories do sometimes break on Christmas Day. Certainly by the evening when the first editions drop there are calls. That's the level of activity. There's isn't anybody actually sitting in Millbank Tower on Christmas Day. They would be a particularly sad

"I will have time to cook my Christmas turkey and open my presents with my kids. I don't hink I could explain to my kids 18 months and three years old if I wasn't at home, but they don't mind the odd phone call." Some employees are rewarded for their seasonal services. RAC patrolmen have no



Far from home: Gunners of the Royal Artillery kept the festive spirit alive last year while ce-keeping in Bosnia by singing carols on Mt Igman, near Sarajevo

top the festive bonus league, picking up £250 a shift. Rivals

AA quadruple wages.
To many taxi drivers, Christmas Day is the perfect time to right off debts. Paul Gould, 52, who works for Computer Cab, a London-based radio taxi company, pays for all his Christmas presents by working three or four hours on the 25 December.

"The account work is very lu-crative," he said. "Computer Cab almost invites you to go out, the incentives are that good." Besides the fact that the meter clock up £40-£50 an hour, Mr Gould is glad of the excuse to get out of the house. "Christmas Most were from people trying morning is crazy." he said. "I to make last minute financial like to get out of the way. My arrangements, such as asking for

from his turkey. "Not under any circumstances whatsoever," he

earn five times their normal hard the rest of the year. If I holiday period. Seventy per wage if they work on Christmas can't do that little bit extra dur-Day. The "Knights of the road" ing the year there must be can't do that little bit extra dur- cent of managers in small firms,

something wrong with me."
But extra pay is out of the question in some cases. At the telephone bank, First Direct, employees are expected to hun-ker down willy nilly. The service is, after all, round the clock, 365 days a year And First Direct appears to get the custom. It expects an in-

credible1,200 people to interrupt their turkey and trimmings to make a call on Christmas Last year, the company re-ceived 120 calls from customers who just rang to say "Happy Christmas" on Christmas Day.

wife's got a lot to do."

Pat Bailey, who also works for Computer Cab, takes a different view. No amount of pound signs could tempt him away ecutive "pops in to say: 'hi". According to a survey by the Institute of Management, those said. "It's a day to be with my family and friends. The way I who work for small companies are more likely to benefit from problem with volunteers - they look at it is that I work very, very an extended break during the cuses, basically.

na para paggina di kamana kamana kanggaran sa kana di di samana manggaran mengan di salah di salah sa managan Mananggaranggaran di kamana kamana kanggaran salah sa di salah samana menggaran menggaran salah salah salah sa

comprising one to 100 employees, said their organisation takes time off, compared with 45 per cent of managers in large firms.

Roger Young, the institute's director general, said: "Christmas, in particular, is an ideal time opportunity for hard working teams to let their hair down and get their knees up at the end of the year. Staff will then approach the New Year invigorated and remotivated."

Journalists and television staff also have to work. In 1979 Martyn Lewis remembers being called up by ITN in the middle of Christmas hunch and told to hop on a plane to India because the Soviet Union had just invaded Afghanistan.

This year Mr Lewis will spend Christmas Day rattling around the BBC television studies from dawn to dusk. Why him? "It was basically my turn," he said. "I've been at the BBC 10 years and I'd always found a very good reason not to do Christmas Day. I ran out of ex-



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THE COAT ABOVE IS MADE PROM FUN FUR

Teachers mark down grammar questions

Judith Judd **Education Editor**

English teachers and government advisers are at odds over new sample grammar tests for 14-year-olds Teachers say the sample tests,

which have been seen by The Independent, will harm pupils grasp of grammar and unleash a debate among experts about what constitutes correct grammar.

The controversial tests have been commissioned by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, which advises the Government on

Gillian Sheppard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, ordered the introduction of new tests earlier this year. She said that she wanted to address the concerns of universities and emplovers about the state of school leavers' grammar, spelling and punctuation.

English teachers argue that grammar should be taught and assessed through writing rather than through short, timed grammar tests with brief answers. They say sample tests suggest that the new tests will be even worse than they feared.

Next term tests in grammar, spelling and punctuation will be piloted in 2 per cent of schools and all schools will be able to volunteer to take them next May.

From 1998 they will be compulsory for all 14-year-olds alongside existing national tests in English, maths and science. The sample test asks pupils to

identify spelling rules by giving a plural of words such as cactus. Another of the questions asks the pupils to list the four main verbs in a sentence.

Teachers argue that it is misleading to suggest that there is a spelling pattern which means that the plural of words such as cactus is invariably formed by replacing

"us" with "i". Even if one would mark cactuses as wrong, they ask, should the one say syllabuses or syllabi, focuses or foci?

They also say that a question that asks candidates to underline to be piloted in schools next term. four main verbs in the sentence "the monument is very special for me because it is where I spent most of my days as a little child playing with my friend and where I used to go with my parents for strolls is problematic.

Many people, they say, would argue that a sentence can have only one main verb.

Gabrielle Cliff Hodges, acting chair of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said: "There are differences of opinion about grammar. Is there is a model of grammar on which these tests will be based?"

Teachers needed a much clearer idea, she said, of what was being proposed and of the terminology beng used.
Teachers are also concerned that

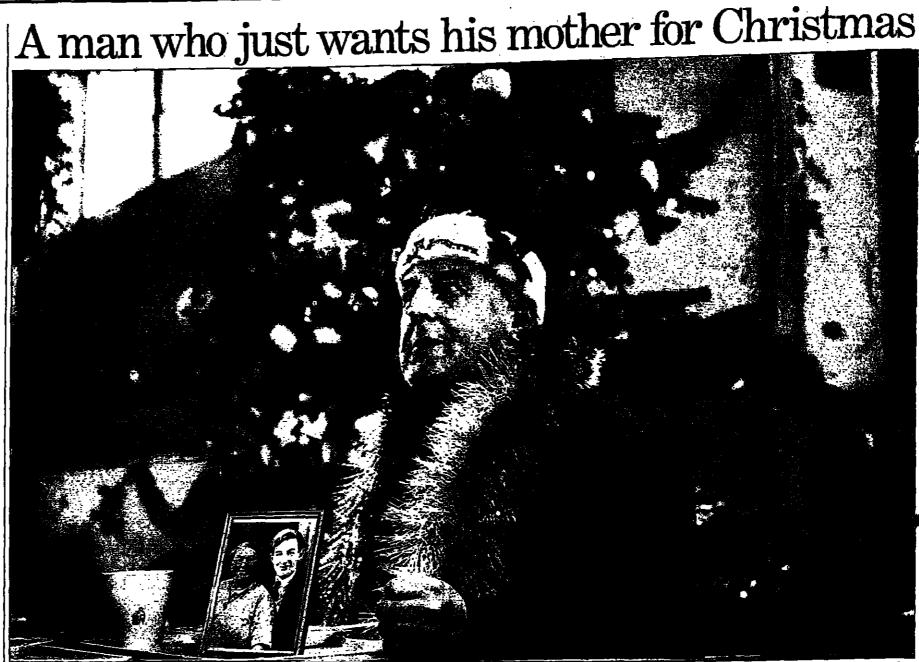
a number of questions give pupils a passage of incorrect English to write correctly.

For instance, they are asked to correct passages such as "they argue that animals what are kept in unnatural conditions are all miserable. They give an example of one of the worser things being tigers trapped in small bare cages with no space to turn round in. Anne Barnes, general secretary

of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said: "Anyone who has taught English knows that you try to avoid putting three ways of spelling their on the blackboard. If you do, they never sort out the correct one. "Here you are presenting children

with something in print that is wrong but the authority of print makes it seem right."
The School Curriculum and As-

sessment Authority had no com-



John Cohen, 64, who is homeless, at the Christmas lunch held by the charity Crisis at Bermondsey, south London, yesterday. The photograph is of Mr Cohen and his mother taken in 1948. He has not seen her since 1950. With 2,000 volunteers across Britain, Crisis will provide a Christmas for 4,000 people

Photograph: John Voos

ckensian season for the elderly

government report on energy saving reveals a shocking picture of nousing deprivation, with the elderly and those living in rented accommodation suffering winter cold on a Dickensian scale.

The English House Condition Survey 1991 (Energy Report) shows that the average home is half as energy efficient as today's building standards require, while 15 per cent of the entire stock -3 million homes are grossly inefficient. Four out of 10 homes have no loft insulation, or insulation less than 3.5ins thick. Only a quarter of all cavity walls are insulated. And only three in 10 homes are draught-proof.

Last year, however, the Government cut funds from £100m to £73m for its Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES), which pays people on low-incomes and older people up to £305 to insulate their lofts, seal off draughts and lag hot water cylinders.

The average grant is £160.

By contrast, the report says £2,000 to £5,000 needs to be spent on improving the energy performance of each inefficient house. It puts a price of £26.3bn on measures to cut England's consumption of domestic fuel by 30 per cent, the target set in the 1995 Home Energy Conservation Act. To date, £350m has been spent under HEES.

The Energy Report measures the their living rooms. fuel efficiency of homes on a scale of 1 to 100. Current building regulatious demand a rating of 70. And draft planning guidance from the DoE says the poorest 20 per cent of households need ratings of 60 or more before they can afford adequate heating. But the average energy rating of England's homes is just

35, while 7 per cent score 10 or less. Elderly and disabled people and those with respiratory problems "are concentrated in the least efficient stock", the report adds. Well over half England's pensioners are heating regime of 18C (64F) in over 60s in winter.

This rises to 83 per cent of single pensioners in privately rented ac-commodation. The 250,000 homes they inhabit have an average energy rating of only 11, and it would cost them a quarter of their entire income to heat their homes adequately.

Yet the elderly are at especially high risk, the report warns, "not only because of their increased frailty but also because their age makes them physiologically less sensitive to cold". According to Mervyn Kohler of Help the Aged, these factors account for an observed 15 per cent "swing"

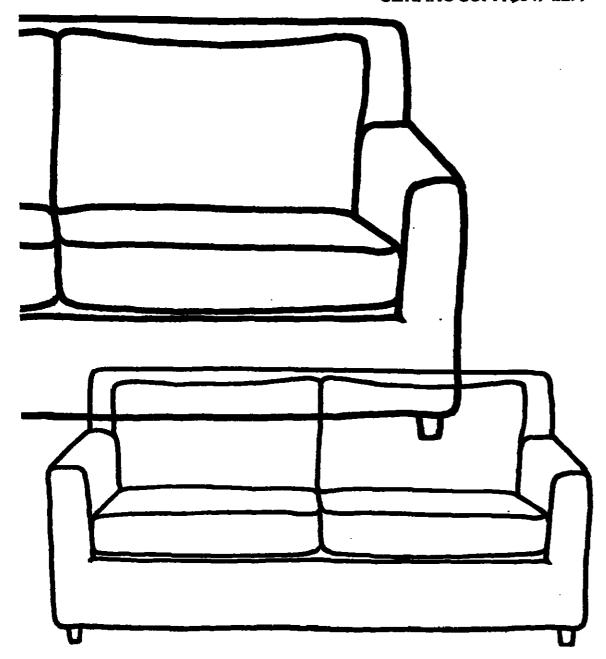
in the mortality rate among the

ed sector "stands out as being exceptionally inefficient", with an average rating of 22. Over a quarter of the sector has an energy rating of 10 or less, and 17 per cent rate 1 or less.

"We are talking about hadly main. tained older houses with thin sold walls, draughty doors and windows, no insulation and a tiny electric fire for heating", says Dr Brenda Board-man of Oxford's Environmental Change Unit.

"It is impossible for anyone on a low income to keep warm in this kind of housing. It simply does not provide adequate shelter from the

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HELP US BUILD AN ANIMAL SA

They were sweet, innocent, angelic - then they became MPs

Judith Judd Education Editor

Choirboys are not what they seem. Yesterday, as choristers from Southwell to Salisbury prepared for the Christmas services, a magazine revealed the facts behind the innocent faces. Some of those beruffed, angelic creatures, it appears, are

heading for an unlikely future - as members of parliament. Several well-known MPs, according to the Choir Schools Association magazine, served their time in the nation's cathedral choir stalls.

Michael Mates, Conservative MP for East Hampshire, and Robert Key, Conservative MP for Salisbury, in Wiltshire, both once sang sweetly as pupils of Salisbury Cathedral School. John Wilkinson, Conservative MP for Ruislip and Northwood, was a pupil at St George's, Windsor.

The magazine has failed to unearth any Labour MPs with a choral past but Simon Hughes. Liberal Democrat MP for Bermondsey, used to sing at



matins and evensong rather than whips and select commit-

Mr Mates, who attended Sal-isbury Cathedral School from 1943-1947, told the magazine of "treats beyond the dreams of any normal prep-school boy dished out by residents of the Cathedral Close in the period before Christmas, when the choristers stayed on to sing services after the other boys had

Mr Mates says: "What has remained with me is the beauty of the music, the solemnity of And hard-nosed MPs speak the Book of Common Prayer with misty eyes of the days and the majesty of the King



James's Bible. Add to this one of the most beautiful cathedral closes in Britain with the soaring grandeur of the cathedral stand that it is an idyll which that help choristers to

will stay with me to my grave." Philip Titcombe, the magazine's editor, suggests that it is the qualities of "discipline, intelligence and communication"

distinction in public life. It will be interesting to note, he adds, how girl choristers, now being admitted to some schools, flourish in "the establishment".

Oz Clarke, the wine expert, Clive Mantle, who plays Mike in television's Casualty, Jon ourish in "the establishment". Snow, the broadcaster, and Other former choristers who Rodney Galpin, chairman of



Standard Chartered Bank and a Bank of England director. There are 39 schools which educate choristers and which are attached to cathedrals. churches and college chapels. All but two are independent but most choristers' fees are sub-

sidised. On average parents pay less than half foes. St Mary's, Edinburgh, has had a mixed choir for many years but the first English cathedral choir for girls was set up five years ago at Salisbury. Excter, Wells and York have followed.

The introduction of girls was resisted by traditionalists who maintained that boys produced a unique choral tone

But a report in the magazine of research into the differences between boys' and girls' voices challenges their view.

Professor Graham Welch of Rochampton Institute says that his research shows that even expert listeners cannot tell the difference between all-boys, all-girls and mixed choirs. What counts, he says, is the sex of the trainer. He asked two panels of listeners, one of choral music experts, and one of musicians without special knowledge of choirs, to

identify the sex of 15 choirs. He concluded that sounds that are perceived as "masculine" are made by choirs trained by men and "feminine" sounds are made by choirs trained by

Earlier studies have shown that the sex of untrained singers can usually be identified but the Rochampion study shows that the same is not true of trained singers. Professor Welch says: "We find no evidence in their results that the introduction of girls into cathedral choirs will necessarily have any effect on the choral tone that is produced, nor that the much valued Anglican choral tradition will be cha-

Two held in Saudi over nurse killing

Charlie Bain

40.11 10.00

10.00

Britain was negotiating with the Saudi Arabian authorities last night for access to two British nurses being held over the killing of an Australian Dhahiran.

The two British women, both in their thirties, were being terday. "A member of staff is held in a police station and had trying to seek immediate access." embassy staff. If they are charged and found guilty of the murder, they could face the death penalty under Islamic Law. The British Consul, Tim Lamb, had been attempting to make contact with them since they were detained last Friday but had not been able to establish if they had been charged.

The two women were arrested following the killing of 55-year-old Yvonne Gilford at the King Fahd Military Medical Complex where all three were based. Ms Gilford, a senior theatre nurse from South Australia, was found dead in her in Saudi Arabia to outside inroom on 11 December. She had been stabbed four times, hit with a hammer and smothered.

According to sources at the posed a ban on all foreigners leaving the medical complex af-ter her death. Around 40 British employees also had their pass-Office in London would not open verdict.

disclose the identities of the

Mr Lamb had also been trying to put pressure on Saudi officials to say whether the women had been charged - or to release them if they had not. "We are nurse at a military hospital in seeking urgent clarification on whether any charges are being brought," a sookesman said yestrying to seek immediate access.

Lamb was not allowed to enter the hospital yesterday after flying to Dhahran from Riyadh but was believed to have spoken to other British staff from the

Ms Gilford was half way through a 12-month contract when she was killed four days before her 56th birthday. She had been living in Johannes-burg, South Africa, before arriving in Saudi Arabia and was described by colleagues as a "Florence Nightingale" who devoted her life to nursing.

The resistance of authorities fluence in cases involving foreign nationals was highlighted in 1979 by the death of Helen-Smith who fell to her death from hospital, police in Dhahran im- a sixth-floor balcony during an illegal drinks party in Jeddah. Despite claims by many people, including her father, Ron, that she was murdered, an inquest ports confiscated. The Foreign into her death returned an

Hunger strike trucker suffers appeal delay

authorities fulfil their promise to give him a date for his appeal.

Unless the appeal is lodged in time for Ramadan, the Muslim fast and Moroccan "pardon" season which begins in February, Steve Bryant, who was the really was given similar adjated in Tangier on drugs vice by their MEP. charges, has no chance of a pardon for a further year. Stephen Jakobi, of the or-

ganisation Fair Trials Abroad, said: "He's extremely concerned that he'll miss the deadline and be stuck there.".

Bryant, from north-east London, ended his previous hunger strike last mouth after Moroccan authorities promised him a firm date for his final appeal Within 45 days. He is now embarked on a.

race against time to lodge it betervention from their embassy. Bryant's MP, Steven Norris. wrote to the British ambassador in Morocco earlier this

month, urging him to add his

A lorry driver imprisoned in Morocco is preparing to restart his hunger strike unless don Mr Bryant's family were told that the only way Mr Bryant could be released was by a royal pardon on his behalf by members of his family and then forwarded by the Moroccan minis ... of justice, adding that

> The 42-year-old father of four, who has always pleaded his innocence, is one of a growing number of lorry drivers con-

victed for drugs smuggling. In March 1993, returning from his third trip to Morocco, Bryant was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment after cannabis was found in his cargo of frozen squid. He is now two and a half years into his sentence with no possibility of an

early release. His case helped prompt a fore Ramadan, although Mr
Jakobi believes the Foreign Office is "dragging its feet", citing
the example of Dutch truckers

joint initiative between UK customs and the United Road
Transport Union. The "Memorandum of Understanding" joint initiative between UK cus-toms and the United Road Transport Union. The "Mem-Who were freed following in-, attempts to put drivers on a par with postmen, airline pilots and ships' captains in acknowledging that not all drivers are guilty when drugs are found in their



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Israelis agree to Palestine state in theory

The Netanyahu government is coming to terms with hard reality. Eric Silver reports

Jerusalem — Yesterday's apparent deal between the Palesinian leader, Yasser Arafat, and the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, did not come as an extraordinary bolt from the blue. Last weekend, David Bar-Illan, Mr Netanyahu's chief of planning and communications, said the unsayable. In a remarkably frank interview with the Jerusalem Post, he acquiesced in the creation of a Palestinian state.

It would have to be demilitarised, he insisted. It would not be free to sign a military alliance with the likes of Iran or Iraq. The bottom line was: "I want a state, but I want it to be limited here and there.

Six months ago, Mr Bar-Illan would have denounced such views as heresy. He and his boss have learned some hard lessons in office. If the interview reflects the Prime Minister's evolving position, it suggests that his gov-



Netanyahu: Set to continue Oslo peace programme

emment is coming to terms with the reality of a divided land. something which his Likud predecessors. Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir, never

It suggests, however grudg-ingly, that Mr Netanyahu is braced to continue the Oslo peace programme, in deed as well as in rhetoric. Mr Arafat delayed signing a new deal on an Israeli redeployment from Hebron precisely because he feared the Prime Minister would then say: "Thus far and no farther." Mr Bar-Illan was not provid-

ing a conclusive assurance. There will be hard and ugly bargaining to come, in the remaining stages of the Oslo II interim agreement. more Israeli evacuations, the freeing of Palestinian prisoners, the opening of "safe-passige" routes between Gaza and the West Bank, economic cooperation - and in the more traumatic negotiations for a final settlement of the Israeli-Pales-

tinian conflict. There are contrary signals, like the government's pledge to expand Jewish settlement on the West Bank and in the Arab neighbourhoods of East Jerusalem, though so far these are more talk than action.

anyahu's current ideological stand, Mr Bar-Illan told his interviewer that the Prime Minister was no longer a "whole-land-of-Israel" man. "I don't think be feels that there is any chance of the Land of Israel remaining completely under the exclusive rule of Israel," he said.

The next day, Mr Bar-Illan issued a statement distancing Mr Netanyahu from his aide's "private opinion". But the interview has not been repudiatyet demanded his head.

Until now Mr Bar-Illan, the former editor of the Jerusalem Post and a close friend of the Prime Minister, has always tak-

loyalist who served as cabinet secretary under Menachem Begin, then defected to Shimon Peres's peace camp, commented yesterday: "There seems to be an ideological revolution on the right as they are detaching themselves from the Greater-Israel ideology. If Bar-Illan talks this way, this tells you

frastructure Minister, Ariel Sharon, is backing the call for a national-unity government, or at least for a consensus of ideas, to negotiate a final settlement. The Israelis had to agree, the Likud maverick argued this week, on what they were preparced to give up and on what they would insist on keeping. Mr Sharon, the master settlementbuilder of the Seventies and the Eighties, was talking territorial compromise.

MPs, led by Michael Eitan and Yossi Beilin, has been meeting regularly to thrash out the terms of such a consensus. Mr Eitan is not a minister, but he is chairman of the coalition caucus. Mr Peres as Labour party leader, was one of the architects of the Oslo breakthrough.

They are committed, whether they like it or not, to completing the Oslo peace process. But they feel they can make the necessary painful concessions only with bipartisan support.
They need Labour and the

left to outface their own messianic constituency, particular-ly among the West Bank settlers, who will have to pay the

than a straw in the wind. Mr Arafat looks like having some-

thing to bargain for.

ed, the chief of planning and communications is still at his post. Isracli commentators have noted, too, that Mr Netanyahu's right-wing Likud MPs have not

en as hard and as pessimistic a line as Mr Netanyahu. The Arabs, and in particular the Palestinians, had not changed their spots - he thundered in dozens of editorials. Their strategic aim was still to kill Jews and destroy the Zionist

Aryeh Naor, a former Likud

times." The signs are multiplying almost daily. The National In-

At the same time, an informal group of Likud and Labour Reilin, a candidate to succeed Mr.

Likud leaders, it seems, recognise that they cannot go back.



Peruvian guerrillas free 225 hostages

Phil Davison

Around 140 Peruvian government officials, Asian and Latin American diplomats and Japanese businessmen appear set to pass Christmas in the besieged Japanese ambassador's residence here, under the guns of more than 20 Tupac Amaru guerrillas and surrounded by increasingly impatient Peruvian commandos.

The guerrillas suddenly released 225 foreign hostages late on Sunday night, including Britain's deputy ambassador, Roger Church, and a British businessman, David Griffith, in what they called a goodwill gesture for Christmas.

But a communiqué from the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement Japanese diplomats and businessmen (MRTA) leader, Nestor Cerpa, showed

down. He said the remaining hostages would be released only if President Alberto Fujimori released several hundred Tupac Amaru prisoners from jail. Mr Fujimori has been adamant he will

Opinions were divided here as to whether releasing most of the for-eigners made a military assault on the building more or less likely. Some Peruvians expressed concern that foreign television networks immediately started pulling out after their nationals were

Mr Fujimori has threatened an assault if the guerrillas do not lay down their arms, but has been under heavy international pressure not to do so. The fact that the guerrillas retained was widely seen here as part of their

no sign that the rebels were backing efforts to extort a "war tax" - a cash ransom from wealthy Japanese corheld. After releasing "those not linked to the Peruvian government", holding the Japanese businessmen made no sense other than for money, several

> Peruvian police claimed yesterday that the Tupac Amaru guerrillas, before the Lima siege, routinely earned more than \$1m a year from ransoms through kidnappings.

diplomats said.

It was a dramatic scene on Sunday night as the foreign hostages began ap-pearing, boarded buses and gazed or waved at hundreds of journalists, tele-vision lights and flashing cameras.

To fit on to six buses for the trip to a police hospital for a medical check, many were forced to stand in the aisles-But for the crumpled dark evening suits

they had worn to attend a Christmas cocktail party, they could have been weary Peruvians returning from work.

Some looked exhausted, confused and unshaven. Others smiled and gave victory signs. Some still wore ties. Others wore sports shirts provided by Red Cross workers. On the first bus was Mr Church.

Britain's Deputy Chief of Mission, who spent 122 hours as a hostage. His boss, the British ambassador, had left the party just before the guerrilla assault. Appearing on the steps of the British embassy building yesterday, Mr Church, 50, said: "I've had some very difficult days. But I'm just glad to be reunited with my family at Christmas.

"Obviously, my thoughts are with those still held captive and I hope the situation will be resolved very rapidly.

They treated us as well as could be expected. I hope the situation is going to be resolved through negotiations. I believe the Peruvian government is prepared to negotiate. There is not go-ing to be a violent solution to this."

He added: "Originally, their [the guerrillas] demands were very clear the release of 400 prisoners. It seems to me that particular demand has been reduced somewhat." That remark appeared to contradict the guerrillas' own communiqué.

Mr Griffith, born and raised in Peru and holding dual nationality, is general manager of the well-known Hotel Las Americas in Lima. He did not immediately speak to the media. All seven American hostages - three diplomats and four US Agency for International Development employees

were also among those freed.

Yeltsin returns to his Kremlin desk

Helen Womack Moscow

Boris Veltsin returned to work in the Kremlin yesterday, seven weeks after his heart bypass operation, and promised that life for Russians would get bet-

ter in the new year.
In effect, the 65-year-old
President was only just starting
his second term of office. Immediately after the elections last July he had disappeared from public view, suffering again from the heart trouble which dogged him through much of 1995. After his operation on 5 November, he was obliged to follow doctors' orders and convalesce outside Moscow. Although the world's camera

crews have been trying to follow his every movement, journalists missed Mr Yeltsin's discreet return to his Moscow residence over the weekend. But television cameras caught his motorcade driving in through the Kremlin's Borovitsky Gate at 9.30am yesterday. In the yard, he was greeted by

the Kremlin commandant. "I'm army, humilisted in Chechnya feeling fine, ready for battle,"
Mr Yeltsin, dressed in an overcoat and fur hat against the December cold," said. "The coming year will be better for Russia. That is the firm word of

the President." On his first day back at work, Mr Yeltsin was briefed by his chief of administration, Anatoly Chubais, a young market econ-omist hated by the Communist opposition. Today he will meet his Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin who, together with Mr Chubais, has been running the country in his absence.

Mr Yeltsin found time yesterday to speak on the telephone to John Major, who wished him well and promised to visit Russia in 1997. He has already chatted with his friend "Bill", the United States President, and hopes to travel to Washington next March.

But domestic problems are pressing. Millions of workers and pensioners have gone without wages and state allowances for months. The unreformed

and lacking the funds to feed and house its officers and con-

scripts, is in a dire condition. On the surface, Russia has changed considerably in the five years since the collapse of the Soviet Union. But in practice, millions of Russians still feel only the pain of market reform.

In a television address to the nation on Friday, Mr Yeltsin said he would make it his priority to address social issues.
"Quality of life" would be the new catchword and officials who did not pay sufficient attention to the needs of the people would be sacked, he

The words were tough but the delivery was wooden. Asked about a charge from Mr Yeltsin's rival General Alexander Lebed that the Kremlin leader had started drinking again, Michael De Bakey, the Texas surgeon who was a consultant during the operation, said tactfully that a tipple would not hurt the President but he should resist heavy drinking.



Back to work: President Yeltsin returning to the Kremlin in Moscow yesterday

Jail for teller of tall TV stories

Imre Karacs

A German television reporter with a talent for fairy tales will be spending Christmas in jail for the next four years, imprisoned yesterday for stretching his creative licence too far.

Michael Born, a 38-year-old freelancer, was convicted in his home town of Koblenz of fraud, incitement to racial hatred, cruelty to animals and driving without a permit. He had sold commercial companies at least 16 "documentaries" which had owed more to his fertile imagination than to facts.

His highly praised "report" on a chapter of the Ku Klux Klan terrorising forest folk in the Rhineland might have won a prize, had it not been debunked by a policeman. Born had clad some friends in white tunics and hoods, recorded their anti-Semitic rantings and sprinkled the footage with swastikas.

He also dabbled in man-smuggling, interviewed fictitious terrorist leaders and staged a blood-soaked battle on the Albanian-Greek border.

Confronted with damning evidence during his trial, Born said: "I feel guilty towards the viewers, but not towards the television newsrooms.

His defence rested on the premise that his customers were aware they were purchasing entertainment, not journalism. Dozens of witnesses testified that the cable and satellite channels competing for Born's business could have checked the veracity of his reports. They did not, because they were scared

of losing a "good story". By implication, the judge, Ulrich-Weiland, found the entire industry guilty of fraud. But only Born will pay for the crime. The moguls who financed his antics remain at liberty.

Six teeming floors of oriental pleasure – all yours for just 15p

In Shanghai did Huang Chujiu a stately pleasure dome decree. And almost amusement mansion still stands at the south-east corner of Shanghai's People's Square, its "wedding cake" tower a monument to an enduring tendency over decades of political up-heaval to the pursuit of a good night

Now, just as then, the masses queue for an entrance ticket to this multi-level emporium of entertainment. From the ground floor, with its dodgem cars and acrobats, one climbs balustraded staircases up six storeys from the countryside, it offers the best tecming with every conceivable diversion. A ghost train, opera performances, video-games, a cine- . extra for a dancing ticket. Middlema showing a dubbed American aged unemployed locals, and old-aged B-movie, and even stock market pensioners come for the day. "It is the teach-ins vie to attract the biggest most famous place in Shanghai," de-

crowds. In one booth a couple of middle-aged ladies in white coats wield an electric palm-reader with which they promise to diagnose troubled internal organs. Great World even offers a cheap shower, as betrayed by the succession of freshly scrubbed young women visitors exiting from the

Thousands pass through Great World's doors each day, especially after 6.30pm when the basic entrance ticket drops from a daytime price of 20 yuan to 2 yuan (15p). For Shanghai's migrant labour-force, just arrived value entertainment in town. Betterheeled Chinese visitors pay 13 yuan

clared the lift attendant, all of whose 25 working years have been spent within Great World's walls.

Of course, it must be admitted that the fifth floor of Great World is no longer quite what it was. After the Hollywood film director Josef von Sternberg toured the premises in the mid-thirties, he noted in his memoirs: The fifth floor featured girls whose dresses were slit to the armpits, a stuffed whale, story-tellers, balloons, peep-shows, masks, a mirror maze, two love-letter booths with scribes who guaranteed results, "rubber goods" and a temple filled with ferocious gods and joss sticks," These days, the fifth floor is home instead

to a large children's playroom. Take a wander down to the fourth floor, however, and the old Shanghai spirit is alive and pouting. The modern day heirs to Great World's famedsingsong girls are back in action in a packed auditorium with no room left for standing. The troupe is short on songs, but the exotic fashion show (the billboard stretches linguistic definition

wholly male audience straining to glimpse the midriff flesh. Von Sternberg described Great World as a "condensed world", and it has remained so through the century. It was opened in 1917, then Chi-

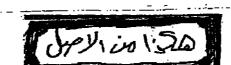
by calling it "dancing") has an almost

Huang Chujiu, who had made his fortune from marketing a brain tonic. By the early Thirties, the pleasure dome had passed into the hands of one of Shanghai's leading gangsters, Pock-marked Huang, who made sure the vice quotient increased with every staircase climbed. An official Chinese history of old Shanghai published in 1985 described Great World in the years before the 1949 communist victory as "a paradise for monsters and demons and a den for enemy agents and traitors camouflaged by beautiful music and graceful dancing".

The local government took control of Great World in 1954 and it was converted into the distinctly more wholesome Shanghai Youth Palace. Even that was deemed unsuitable when the Cultural Revolution broke out in 1966 na's biggest entertainment centre, by and the building was slammed shut.

The lift lady remembered how in 1971, as a 20-year-old, she was sent to work in the kitchen of Great World, even though there were no visitors. Two years later, on 1 October 1973, the building was re-opened for politically correct entertainment for children. But it was not until 1983, when she moved from the kitchen to the lift, that Great World started to shelve ideology in favour of fun. Shanghai in the mid-nineties throbs

with bars, clubs and restaurants, fiercely competing for customers. They change hands regularly, and go in and out of business. Great World is so far the great survivor, attracting both those who can afford nothing better, and others still compelled by its comucopia of delights.



Mary Dejevsky

counts the

cost of Gallic

cheer and

celebration

Anyone with qualms about

conspicuous consumption would do well to give France a

wide berth at Christmas. For

two weeks now, the markets

have been stuffed to bursting

with seasonal fare. From oysters

and lobsters to fole gras and

game of every variety, every-thing is available (at a price),

and nothing disguises its origins.
The foie gras is displayed in windows full of cheerful-look-

mg china ducks and geese. The

still bear their bristles. Flocks of

pheasant and partridge hang in full feather, while the capons,

France's most sought-after Christmas dish, are laid carefully

side by side, their heads re-splendent with red comb and

In the chocolate shops and

påtisseries, the myriad St Nicholases of early December

have come and gone, replaced

by the chocolate and coffee logs

that are the French family

But you can't escape temp

tation by steering clear of the

markets. In the days before

the feast, the French media pro-

vide constant undates on the

food situation - and not just in

Some 90 minutes' viewing

on Sunday evening, which in-

cluded the main news on two

channels, provided reports and

features that amounted to an

almost complete Christmas

A documentary on smoked

salmon detailed the different

methods of preparation and

explained why some people are

prepared to pay up to 70 per cent more for the "hand-

smoked, hand-sliced variety,

New York — The envelope is ad-

dressed simply to "Dear Santa".

The letter inside pleads, polite-

ly: "May you get me a willchair.

I need the willchair to be powered. I need it to get around. Can you help me Santa? I would do

anything for this ... Love allways,

The nine-year-old, born with

no arms and only one functional

leg, wrote the faint, crooked

words by pushing a pencil with her left foot. Now Miracle Re-

trina Womack awaits a miracle, and Guillermina "Gigi" Colon is ready to help. "This is what life is really about." Ms Colon

says, clutching the child's note

as she dashes through the cav-

ernous halls of the General

Post Office in Manhattan, smil-

ing at co-workers who greet her

The jolly, Dominican-born

pixie is the energy behind "Op-

eration Santa Claus", which

makes Christmas dreams come true at the city's huge main post

office, next to Penn Station

and Madison Square Garden.

Miracle Retrina.

with "Hi Santa!"

the commercial breaks.

ginger feathers.

Christmas pudding.

aunches of venison and boar

Villagers in Victnam's Ha Tinh province have been the fields. Lao Dong total of 420,000 had been collected in the district of

Weddings take on air of danger

Sarajevo — Reuter

A car bomb exploded near one of the capital's biggest cafés, killing at least three people and wounding 70. It went off when the pavements and streets were throughout central Algiers.

Havel, has been moved out after surgery to remove a will have to spend

sorry to gays The Israeli President, Ezer Weizman, met gay leaders

and apologised for publicly deriding homosexuality as "abnormal". His spokesman, Arieh Shumer, said: "The President says he must express sorrow for any act or comment that causes oublic humiliation or can be necessary to guard the all the citizens of the state of role is largely symbolic, took aim at homosexuals during a

significant shorts

OJ is killer in Diamond ring son's murder returned to

signment that ended with his father being the killer, a television station reported.

The season to be jolie: A

supermarket in Calais lays out its stall; a French family

spends an average £17 per

new-fangled ways to to open

But the drawback to Christ-

mas, of course, is the bill. The

"average" family - one French

market researcher estimates -

will spend 149 francs (£17) per

head on the Christmas meal this

year, up Fr9 since last year and

well ahead of inflation. It did not

say whether this was because

people were splashing out a lit-tle more, or whether the price

of luxury foods has just risen

more than that of other goods.

look something like this: oysters (Fr70 to Fr110 a dozen, at least

six each): fole gras (Fr200 buys a pot just sufficient for eight); a fair-sized capon (Fr350), and a chocolate log – Fr170-plus even from the most ordinary

pâtissière.
All that is without the vegetables, the salad and the

cheese course, the petits fours or

the chocolates. It is also before

you have chosen the Chablis to

accompany the oysters, the

Sauternes for the foie gras, the

vintage Bordeaux for the capon.

and the champagne and cognac.
You can cut maybe 20 per cent off the bill by going out of

town to shop at the hypermar-

ket, but there is a social cost.

It is like settling for mousse de

foie gras: whatever you do, don't

■ The Panzani-William Saurin

company, part of the Danone

group, withdrew prepared

pasta meals and canned stews

from sale yesterday, acknowl-edging that the food might con-

tain British beef imported

before the European embargo

was imposed. Their decision

followed inquiries by the French

ties will entertain crowds and.

for the equivalent of £5, back-

packers will receive one alco-

holic drink, a barbecue lunch

and a phone card to ring home.

packed Bondi beach on Christ-

mas Day, planting their na-tional flags in the sand. Trouble

began when hot-rod car en-

thusiasts invaded the beach

front and taunted revellers in an

with alcohol and expectation.

Bondi for Christmas, the back-

packets and tourists, are the or-

phans of the city," said Rikki

McDonald, a psychologist and

co-organiser of the reclaim

Bondi event. Last year she and

her partner transformed an-other riot-torn beach, at Byron

Bay, into a safe Christmas

haven. She has a strategy to do

move people around, keep them excited and turn them out

at the end of the night when

testosterone and boredom are

not a good mix. It's all a mat-

Will it work? "Alcohol,

the same thing at Bondi:

their energy is dissipated."

"Most of those who come to

Last year 20,000 people

A couple of days earlier, the

evening news had regaled us

with information about the

country's favourite oysters this

season (from Marennes in west-

ern France, should you want to

know), and the latest episode

of the perennial debate on

Robert Milliken Sydney

After the worst year in its his-

tory, Bondi beach has gone on

to full alert to head off anoth-

er Christmas of violence. In re-

cent years the beach has been

taken over on Christmas Day by

thousands of British backpack-

ers for whom turkey, plum pud-

ding and champagne by the surf

has become something of an ir-

Last year the mix of sun, sand

and alcohol proved a disaster

and riot police were called in on

Christmas night to control

crowds throwing stones and bottles. Several police were in-

jured and dozens of rioters

In September, Bondi's repu-tation was further tarnished

when Brian Hagland, 28, a

British tourist, was killed near

the beach. A man has been

charged with the killing. This Christmas, at the

prompting of Bondi residents, the New South Wales govern-

ment and Waverley council.

which covers the area, hired two

events-organisers to "reclaim"

the beach. Tomorrow, alcohol

and cars will be banned from

were arrested.

resistible cultural ritual.

Bondi revellers

have to dry up

The menu, and the budget,

person on Christmas food

gun, was written by Justin mpson in autumn and was used as evidence in the battle between Mr Simpson and his former in-laws for custody of Justin and his 11-year-old sister, Sydney. KCBS-TV reported. Mr Simpson was awarded full custody of his two younger children on Friday. They had been living with their maternal grandparents since their mother, Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend. Ronald Goldman, were killed in June 1494.

Goldman and Simpson, He is now being sued for wrongful death by the estate of Simpson and the Goldman family AP - Los Angeles

Christmas in hospital. It is not yet clear how long it will be before Mr Havel can go

A diamond ring found amid debris of the jet after the explosion of flight TWA 800 off New York in July was to be returned to the woman who had fought to get it back since the crash, which killed her fiance, Andrew Krukar. This is

bitter-sweet," Julie Stuart said. "I only wish it was the way it was supposed to be, with Andy placing it on my finger." A friend of Krukar's in Paris spotted a photo of the box containing the ring in a French magazine and recognised it. AP - New York

Villagers give mice the chop

offered a reward for each mouse tail they bring in from newspaper said that in one village om dong (£485) had been paid for 45,000 tails. A without indicating what would be done with them.

People firing bullets in the air to express joy at weddings had jeopardised aircraft, Kuwait's aviation authority said. "Several civil airplanes had to change their courses," said a letter to the interior ministry. "On October 24 two airplanes, Kuwaiti and American, were exposed to shooting from a wedding in the area south of the airport. Other airplanes have suffered similar incidents ... this could result in catastrophes." Renter - Kuwait

Weizman says

The Czech President, Vaclav interpreted as such ... It is of intensive care three weeks honour, rights and welfare of tumour from his lung, but he Israel." Mr Weizman, whose speech last week in high-school pupils in Haifa. Reuter – Jerusalem

mystery story TWA woman OJ Simpson's eight-year-old son wrote a fictional murder mystery for a school

The story, which featured a killer holding a hostage with a knife and machine-

Mr Simpson was acquitted in October 1995 of double murder in the deaths of

Bosnia eases hated curfew

Bosnia suspended a curfew in Sarajevo and other towns that remained despite the end of the war. The Interior Ministry said the suspension would last until 15 February because of celebrations and events marking Christmas. New Year's Day and Ramadan next month. The curfew is disliked and radio stations have criticised the

Algiers bomb kills three

filled with lunch-hour traffic.

Havel out of intensive care

home. Prague – Reuter

School fight highlights American divide

Waiting game: Santa relaxes before appearing at the Carolina Panthers/Pittsburg Steelers American football

with matching leather interior. year chose a letter from a single

match in Charlotte, North Carolina

Ms Colon, 45, who puts in hundreds of unpaid hours, lives

with two grown sons and a two-

followed hard on the heels of a

discussion of foie gras. "The first

question," said the elegant

blonde expert, "is: duck or

goose. A majority choose duck:

it is slightly smoother, more

terviewer, about mousse de foie

gras?" Our expert said, with a

patronising smile: "Ah well,

that's something quite different.

If we're honest, it's bought by

people who can't afford foie

erfumed."

gras. It's very tasty, but it's not foie gras."

Christmas around the world: Many have far too little and quite a few have had far too much

even though "no one really

A feature on truffles - from

detection by truffle-hound.

through hush-hush negotiation

the top chefs do with them -

made available to anyone who

wants to become an instant

guardian angel. Some come

from as far away as South Africa and Japan. "Most post

offices in the world know about

us," Ms Colon, head of cus-

started nearly 70 years ago by

postal workers who answered

letters that were headed for the

dustbin. It now attracts gifts

from individuals and business-

es, and is mirrored around the

country at 84 other postal ser-

vice consumer affairs offices.

York letters are "adopted". Peo-

ple can pick through boxes of let-

ters from the city's five boroughs,

as well as "Foreign", "New Jer-sey", "Spanish" and "Mixed States". The opportunities do

not end at Christmas. Hispan-

ic children traditionally receive

gifts on Epiphany in January. Among them are requests from a New York child for

spaghetti, rice and beans, blan-

kets, a coat and - "if you can" -

a real live bunny. A girl with real

live mice in her house asks for

ta letters had arrived by Friday wants a cherry-red Cadillac year-old granddaughter, this cal Cats.

A record 153,000 Dear San- a mouse trap. Another child

About one-third of the New

Operation Santa Claus was

tomer relations, said.

Write-on Santa

works miracles

of the sale at market, to what perfumed."

smokes over wood any more,

whatever the label says"

France abandons itself to Christmas

venison, truffles and red, red wine

it by a white newspaper reporter earlier this month to check on the progress of a new black school, boasting a combative principal and a heavily Afro-centric curriculum. What happened next has unleashed racial uproar, and could conceivably change the direction of the city's electoral

Last week, Mary Anigbo, the principal of the Marcus Garvey Charter School, which opened its doors to 62 pupils in September, was indicted by a DC grand jury along with three staff members on misdemeanour charges of assaulting Susan Ferrechio of the Washington Times.

Ms Ferrechio says she went to the school to see Ms Anigbo. As she waited, she interviewed a student, only for a school official to demand her notebook. When she refused, she claims she was set upon by the principal, staff and students who kicked her and made racial taunts before throwing her off

warned she was going to "get you black people out of the building".

Within two hours Ms Ferrechio was back at the school with two police officers and a Washington Times photographer who in his turn was attacked when he started to take pictures, as were the police when they intervened. Finally order was restored, but

the real trouble had only begun.

For contemporary Washington's poisonous brew of discredited local government, virtual financial collapse, a school system acknowledged as one of the country's worst, and ever-present racial tensions, the confrontation

was one ingredient too many. A legal verdict will only be delivered by a court. But both communities have already rendered their different

the same of the sa

Racial harmony seems further away than ever in Washington but at last the President is taking notice, writes Rupert Cornwell

mother with three children in Brooklyn and will give them

tickets for the Broadway musi-

appointment last month of Julius Becton, a former army general, whose first step was to sack the entire existing District of Columbia school board. but distinct stirrings of hope for Wash-The fact that Marcus Garvey - ington. which enjoys private status although mostly funded by public money - does

not come under the general's juris-

diction, has only increased the outrage

- as did the revelation that Ms Anigbo had been charged in 1986 with assault with a deadly weapon, and that one of the security guards at the school had been convicted of armed robbery. But the city's 70 per cent black majority tends to see matters through a different prism. Courtland Milloy, a black columnist on the Washington Post,

wrote of a caller who likened the in-

mace (a blinding chemical spray used to ward off attackers) and a knife, and warned she was going to "get you black woman saying, cation system, which led to the 'Just stay out of my kitchen'." Small wonder then that the confrontation has been so jarring. Even more sadly, it has come amid with faint

> After four years of almost total indifference to the problems of the city where he lives, President Clinton is now promising a "serious effort" by the White House to help, while Hillary Clinton says she will henceforth de-vote her formidable energy and talents to the capital's plight.

But the essential precondition for a lasting revival of Washington remains the departure of its mayor. Marion Barry has been stripped of most real power by the financial control board which took charge of the city's budthe premises. Ms Anigho contends the pudgements. For the white-domination cident to "that historic racial conflict, get 15 months ago; but his re-election "not to permit to reporter pushed her, threatened to use ded Washington establishment, the Missy-versus-Mammy. It's an arrogant in 1994 after serving time for a cocaine polarisation".

offence makes him, in the eyes of most Americans, the symbol of the appar-ent deathwish of the capital. And here too, the Marcus Garvey fracas may have an impact. Mr Barry, first elected in 1978, has not said whether he will seek a fifth term in 1998. But a pos sible contender touted by the Wash ington Post and much of the city establishment is Eric Holder, one of the district's leading federal prosecutors - who referred the Anigho case

to the grand jury.
Mr Holder is black, but unlike Mr Barry, comparatively pale-skinned. He is accused by some of Ms Anigbo's supporters of practising "vintage white racism". Last week he told the Post of his misgivings about a mayoral run. "There's no question about it, one of the shots that would be taken at me is, 'Is he black enough ? ... Is this guy one of us?' "

Immediately after securing the indictments, he appealed for calm and for Washingtonians of both races "not to permit this incident to increase



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as white as a ghost, but for some reason he did not open fire.

It was an incredible sight. We were going to win the war! All the infantry chars were moving cheering the ranks. We saw no German aircraft. We dominated the skies - the infantry the ground. But it was all so short-lived. The casualties were terrible. I

elder brother Edmond, an indown on his father's birthday af-ter a single-handed fight with five enemy aircraft. It was a loss was demobilised in 1919. He

Keith Ruddock was an outled him to devote his subsestanding scientist who all his quent research to the study of vision. He became a leading and highly innovative exponent of the application of psychophysics (the investigation of the relations between physical stimuli and sensation) to the study of

vision in human subjects. Not content with extending understanding of normal vi-sion he turned to studies of the nature of visual abnormalities exhibited by a variety of clinical patients, many of whom had suffered brain damage as a result of a stroke or tumour. His studies were carried out not only to enhance understanding of the normal mechanisms of visual processing, but to offer practical assistance to the patient. Ruddock was a brilliant experthe rest of his academic career.
He came under the influence of with such a patient would rapid-Professor David Wright, the doyen of colour vision, which would be speedily exe-

cuted following modifications of the hallmark of the visual psy-chophysicist, the optical bench.

This consists of a series of mirrors, lenses, filters and light sources, which when viewed by the uninitiated gives the impression of science performed with string and sealing wax, but in the hands of Ruddock provided measurements of the highest precision. For the subject the experiments could be fairly demanding, but here Rud-dock's humanity was apparent. Several of his subjects returned time and time again to his laboratories over extended periods, in some cases in excess of 20 years. If the patient was unable to travel to London Ruddock would devise suitable portable equipment to take the laboratory into the patient's home. His patients became his friends as did almost everyone who

pioneer in single-cell electrophysiological recording. This enabled Ruddock on his return to establish, in Imperial's country establishment at Silwood Park, a separate research programme in which he recorded from within cells in the retina, the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. Both his electrophysiological and psy-chophysical studies led him into controversial areas in the field of vision; he defended his position strongly whilst always being prepared to listen and debate with the opposition. Throughout his life at Impe-

rial he was committed to undergraduate and postgraduate education, and actively involved in the organisation of teaching. He was an excellent lecturer

In 1972 he was awarded a Royal Society Exchange Fellowship to work in Venezuela with Gunnar Svaetichin, a the physical sciences. Every year, after hearing his lectures, students flocked to his door to carry out final-year projects or PhDs under his supervision. To them he was always accessible. In 1988 he was appointed Professor of Biophysics, and in 1991 Head of the Biophysics Group

Professor Keith Ruddock

in the Physics Department. Over the years Ruddock developed an extended international network of former students whom he greatly enjoyed visiting. This and frequent requests to lecture abroad fed his passion for travel, which was made all the more pleasurable by his gift for languages, which extended to Chinese -

studied as a challenge.
Outside Imperial College he was on several editorial boards and national committees. He



particularly enjoyed his work on the Vision Research Working Party of the Wellcome Trust. In 1985 with three other visual scientists and clinicians he formed the Neuro-ophthalmology Club and it was his enthusiasm and interest which has ensured its

Ruddock was an ardent follower of sport, especially Welsh rugby and cricket, although here he was a Lancashire supporter. An accomplished violinist, he was involved in the musical life of Imperial, but it was his burning love of opera that was evident to all around him. He regularly visited the Royal Opera House and had in recent weeks been contemplating its forthcoming temporary closure for redevelopment, and whether to sign up for opera sea-sons in houses as far afield as

New York, Paris or Vienna. In 1963 he married Joan Anthony, a teenage friend who had followed him to study at Imperial College. Coming from the same background their 30 years together were spent sharing similar ideals, particularly a passion for socialism which eventually led Joan to become 1963 Joan Anthony; died a Labour Member of Parlia- London 20 December 1996.

ment. They separated in 1990. Keith Ruddock was a scientist and humanitarian who showed absolute loyalty to his friends. His untimely and sudden death came just hours after he remarked that he had had one of the most successful years ever in his scientific career with a stream of exciting new observations. There was an irony in his death's resulting from a motor vehicle accident; it was a form of transportation Ruddock disliked and he had never considered it necessary to learn to drive.

Christopher Kennard Keith Harrhy Ruddock, biophysicist: born Croesycciliog, South Wales 12 March 1939; Professor of Biophysics. Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine 1988-96; married

Gwilym Lewis

survivor of the Royal Flying Corps and, having shot down 12 enemy aircraft, their last ace. He numbered among his friends Mick Mannock VC, who was credited with 72 enemy aircraft. There now remains only one surviving RFC pilot, Cecil Lewis, the author of Sagittarius Rising. Lewis was born in Birming-ham in 1897. He was educated at Marlborough College and in 1915 volunteered for the Northampton Regiment. After three weeks he found it was hard work and applied for a transfer to the RFC. They were full, and he was advised to obtain a private flying certificate. He asked his father for £100, enrolled at Hendon and qualified that November on a Grahame White Boxkite; three weeks

adult life was committed to

teaching and research at

He was born into a South

Wales mining village; its culture

and the influences of his family

were never to leave him. His fam-

ily's love of music and concern

for the social causes of the

Welsh valleys led to his abiding

love of opera and to his pas-sionate commitment to socialism.

His family had great ambi-tions for him and at West Mon-

mouth Grammar School his

exceptional mathematical abil-

ities were recognised. In 1957

he became a student in the

Physics Department at the Im-

perial College of Science and

Gwilvm Lewis was the oldest

Technology, and there he spent

Imperial College, London.

later so did his father. After a basic course of instruction at Farnborough he was posted to Upavon, the RFC's Central Flying School and in April 1916 was awarded his pilot's brevet (wings). He then joined 32 Squadron and on 29 May, with only four and a half hours of flying in a DH2, flew with his squadron to France in a clapped-out plane while anxiously looking for a ship to land alongside in case his

engine failed. Although the youngest pilot of the squadron he was soon in action. Nearly 80 years later when I interviewed him for a book (There Shall be Wings: the RAF 1918 to the present day, 1993) he recalled an occasion on patrol in September 1916:

I was well above the rest when I spotted a two-seater Roland. I couldn't see his crosses until he passed right over, then I could see the observer

He then described the major offensive south-west of Bapaume later that month when tanks went into action.

don't know how they stood it.

Lewis was to lose many friends from his squadron, but his most heartfelt loss was his experienced pilot who was shot



from which his father never

recovered. In September 1917 Gwilym Lewis was given command of an SE5 flight training pilots and then made a Flight Commander of 40 Squadron. Another Flight Commander was Mick Mannock, who named Lewis "Noisy" se he was so quiet.

In July 1918 Lewis was awarded the DFC. He was exhausted - and wise enough at 21 to realise this. Other pilots more experienced were not. On his last day in France at his farewell lunch, he recalled Mannock's taking the great Irish ace G.E.H. McElroy to one side and warning him not to follow the enemy down, because ground fire would get him. Six days later Mannock himself was killed by ground fire following down a two-seater. Five days after that

McElroy was also shot down. The final month of 1918 was spent as an Instructor at CFS, was 21. He was never to fly a plane again.

Lewis's qualities as both a pilot and a leader are possibly best exemplified by the fact that he never lost a novice pilot. When a new boy joined his squadron he would have him beside him, coax him and nurse him until he ceived a note from one of those novice pilots: "With grateful thanks to Wing Commander 'Noisy' Lewis DFC - my First World War Commander - and due to his splendid leadership I have been able to enjoy such a long and happy 'after life'.")

After such an intense war in which command had come naturally to him, Lewis had some difficulty adjusting to a very ju-nior position with the Lloyd's insurance brokers Sedgwick, Collins, especially as he was under the authority of men for whom he had little regard. However he soon joined up with old RFC pals also at Lloyd's and with them shared a cottage by the Thames at Wargrave. It was here that he met the 20-year-old Noël Coward who one Sunday read his first play, The Rat Trap, to Lewis and his friends as they trench raids please!"

languished in a punt. In 1923 in bowler hat and rolled umbrella he went to America as the man from to him. However during the Lloyd's and on his return argued Marine Department, which upset a few people at Sedgwick's. When the crash came in 1929 he survived well although like everyone he had to face a reduction in salary. In 1925 he had married Christian Robertson and was happily married for 68 years. By 1939 he had built the American Non-Marine Department into the biggest de-

partment in Sedgwick, Collins. During the Second World War Lewis was given the rank of Wing Commander and was part of the Cabinet War Room team. There he prepared de-tailed reports based on the previous 24 hours for the morning briefing. Ever eager to support the RAF, he gilded the lily once too often and Churchill good-naturedly returned the paper with the comment "No

Throughout the war he retained contact with his firm and had copies of their cables sent time he was away there were many changes and in 1947, after more than 25 years' service. they decided to continue without him. Lewis then joined Arbon Langrish and on the death of the senior partner became chairman. He successfully built up the American side of the siness before selling out to Clarkeson in 1965. However he maintained a lifelong interest in Lloyd's and was their oldest member.

Max Arthur

Gwilym Hugh Lewis, aviator and insurance broker: born Birming-ham 5 August 1897; DFC 1918; married 1925 Christian Robertson (died 1993; one son, two daugh-ters, and one son deceased); died London 18 December 1996.

Esther Simpson

with the Academic Assistance Council (AAC), the body set up to rescue refugee scholars from Germany. It was created short-ly after Hitler came to power on 30 January 1933 by Sir William Beveridge, Lord Rutherford, A.V. Hill and Archbishop Temple. They needed a secretary. They found "Tess" Simpson.

She had been working with the World Alliance of YMCAs in Geneva but realised at once that this was a calling. She came to London and started work at £2 10s a week; a third of what she had been earning previously. Her office was in a tiny attic at Burlington House in the Royal Society. If the accommodation was poor, at least

the address was good. On 7 April 1933 a law was passed in Germany "reconstructing" the civil service -which included universities and dismissing all Jews from it. Scientists flooded over. The AAC gave them a small salary and helped to find posts. At that time, in the Great Depression. other countries, especially the United States, were reluctant to admit outsiders but Britain was more welcoming. (Later America took large numbers.) The richness of the refugee haul was extraordinary, including Ein-stein, Max Born, Fritz Haber and James Franck (all Nobel

laureates). Academics of that level had no difficulty finding support: for example, the Austrian physicist Erwin Schrödinger was made a Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford within five days of arriving in England. Among the 2,600 refugees who were less well known, the AAC helped 16 who later won Nobel prizes, 74 who became Fellows of the Royal Society, 34 of the British Academy. To Tess Simpson, all the refugees were her

children". Her toughness and determi-

Esther Simpson's life's work was nation were shown to their greatest advantage in the summer of 1940 when, after the betrayal of Norway and the German attack in the West, several hundred aliens were suddenly interned. Simpson and A.V. Hill, himself a Nobel laureate as well as MP for Cambridge University, were tireless in pressing for their early re-lease. Each case had to be argued with the Home Office and Tess Simpson prepared 560 applications. In the end – but how slow the process seemed they succeeded.

Simpson had hoped that after the war there would be no need for the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning (as the AAC was called from 1936), but that was far from true, with a steady stream of refugee academics from around

the world. Tess Simpson was born in Leeds in 1903. At Leeds University she took a first class degree in Modern Languages and then spent several years in Austria and Switzerland before beginning her life's work. In 1949 the French government awarded her the Ordre des Palmes Académiques. She was appointed OBE in 1956, the universities of London and Leeds awarded her honorary degrees in the 1980s, and in 1991 she was elected an honorary member of

the Royal College of Physicians. She retired in 1978 but kept in touch with her "family" until three days before she died, when she attended the physicist Sir Nevill Mott's memorial service. When an informal book on her life appeared in 1992, it was launched by two members of the Order of Merit, Max Perutz and Sir Ernst Gombrich, which gives some idea of how she was regarded, and by whom.

time one could be forgiven for ordinator: born Leeds 31 July not realising her stature and achievements, so modest was



n by Hanna Schiff, 1933

she. She was calm, lively and

forthcoming to the end. Jean Medawar and David Pyke

Chamber music played an essential part throughout Tess Simpson's life, entwined with her work and her friendships, writes John Horder. It was a decisive influence at certain points in her career, as when, in 1928, 💣 she was finally persuaded to move to Vienna to work for the Fellowship of Reconciliation by a Viennese student with

whom she played in London. She had started violin lessons aged nine (at a shilling a lesson), and became an amateur of professional standard, with whom professionals were happy to play; during and just after the war she was a pupil of Max Rostal, the only amateur to be so. She continued to play both violin and viola until deafness intervened in her seventies. "Music enriched my life by providing me with wonderful friends - meeting a musician was so often like a pebble cast in a pool whose ripples go on to

Meeting her for the first Esther Simpson. refugee co-1903; OBE 1956; died London

William Rushton

Anthony Hayward's warm obituary of William Rushton [13 December] says that he was a efforts. "lifelong Labour Party sup-porter". I find this slightly odd. writes Michael Meadowcroff, since I recall meeting William Rushton in the very early 1960s when he was the in-house car- Party HQ. Their increasing ab-

ducing a splendid strip cartoon each week, plus other one-off

Chris Booker was also with Liberal News at the same time and the two of them would delight in rushing the first issues of Private Eye back to Liberal toonist on Liberal News, pro- sences to produce Private Eye

were, I believe, one reason why the party parted company with

Willie and Chris. Willie Rushton's final cartoon strip contained a character in each frame waving semaphore flags, the message of which was a farewell message of two words connected with sex and

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

DONSKA: Maria, pianist, born 1912, died 21 December 1996, at home, l'uneral service at 2pm, Friday 27 December, al Boughton Malhertte Church, near Lenham, Maidstone, Kent. No flowers please, but dona-tions to the Musicians' Benevolent

IN MEMORIAM PARIKIAN: In loving memory of Manuag Pankian, who died on Christ-mas Eve. 1987.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding nniversaries. In Memoriam i should anniersance, in Memoriani should be sent in writing to the Gazette Ed-itor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 SUL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 (24-hour answering machine 6171-293 2012) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and one charged of 65 50 a line UVI and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT catra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forth-coming nurriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or fused) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extru. They should be accompanied by a daytime telephone number.

Changing of the Guard

CHRISTMAS EVE: The Household Car-CHRISTANDA SEE THE PROBLEMS CANalter Mounted Regument mounts the
Queen's Life Guard at House Guards,
Ham: Naturgen Company Grenadier
Guards mounts the Queen's Guards at
Buckingham Palace, H. Man, band proculed by the Grenadier Guards, CHRISTMAS, DAY: The Household Cacairy
standard Regument manner, the Christian Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen'

Birthdays CHRISTMAS EVE: Mr Alistair Bail-

lie, former diplomat, 64; Mrs Mair Barnes, former managing director. Woolworths, 52; Mr John Barron, acwoolworus, J.; Mr John Barton, ac-tor, 7e; Professor Anthony Clare, psy-chiatrist, 54; Sir Colin Cowdrey, consultant, Barclays Bank, and for-mer cricketer, 64; Sir Gerald Elliot, former chairman, Christian Salvesen, 73; Mr Jeremy Hindley, horse-racing trainer, 53; Mr James Hodge, Am-bassador to Thailand, 54; Dame Joan Kelleher, former director, WRAC, 81; Sir Ivan Lawrence QC MP. 60: Dr John Marek MP. 56: Miss Suzy Menkes, fashion editor, Inver-national Herald Tribune, 53: Miss Thea Porter, fashion designer, 69; Mr Norman Rossington, actor, 68; Mr John D. Taylor MP. 59; Miss Carol Vorderman, broadcaster and writer. 36; Mr Philip Ziegler, author and editor, 67.

CHRISTMAS DAY: Princess Alexandra, 60; Princess Alice. Duchess of Gloucester, 95; Lord Annan, author, 80: Miss Sheila Browne, former Principal, Newnham College, Cambridge, 72: Professor Sir Kenneth Calman, chief medical officer, De-partment of Health, 55; Mr Nick Conway, actor, 34: Mr Quentin Crisp, writer and performer. SS; Professor Christopher Frayling. Pro-Rector, Royal College of Art. 50: Lord Grade, chairman, the Grade Company, 90; The Right Rev Noel Jones, Bishop of Sodor and Man, 64; Miss Annie Lennox, singer, 42: Pro-fessor Philip Lave, Vice-Chancellor, Liverpool University, 57; Mr Tony Martin, singer and actor, 83; Sir Peter Matthews, former Chief Constable of Surrey, 79; Mr Ismail Merchant, film producer, 6ft Professor Phyllida Parsloe, Warden of Wills Hall, Bristol University, 66; Mr Noel Redding, rock musician, 51; Mr John Sharman, High Commissioner to the Seychelles, 59: Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, former chairman, Grand Metropolitan, 64; Miss Sissy Spacek, actress, 47; Mr Nigel Starmer-Smith, sports commentator, 52; Sir Noel Stockdale, life president, ASDA group, 76; The Right Rev Benjamin Vaughan, former Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. 79; Sir Christopher Wates, chief executive of Wates Building Group, 57.

Anniversaries CHRISTMAS EVE: Births: St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, 1491; William Warburton, bishop and scholar, 1698; James Prescott Joule, physicist, 1818; Matthew Arnold, poet and critic, 1822; Louis Jouvet, actor and director, 1887; Howard Robard Hughes, millionaire and recluse. 1905; Ava Lavinia Gardner (Lucy Johnson), ac-tress, 1922. Deaths: Sir Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter, admiral and commander. 1426; Vasco da Gama, explorer and navigator, 1524; William Makepeace Thackeray, novelist, 1863; Frank Richards (Charles Harold St John Hamilton), author and creator of "Billy Bunter", 1961; Peter Lawford, actor, 1984: John James Osborne, playwright and ac-tor, 1994. On this day an attempt was made to assassinate Napoleon L 1800; William Burke, body-snatcher, went on trial, 1828; part of the Capi-tol. Washington, and almost the whole Library of Congress was destroyed by fire, 1851; Giuseppe Ver-di's opera-*likh* was performed for the first time, Cairo 1871; the Coliseum Theatre, London, opened, containing Britain's first revolving stage, 1904; General Eisenhower was ap-pointed commander-in-chief of the Allied invasion forces, 1943; the Apollo 8 spacecraft orbited the moon and sent back a Christmas message, 1968. Today is Christmas Eve and the Feast Day of St Adela. St Delphinus. St Gregory of Spoleto. St Irmina, St Sharbel Makhlouf and Saints Thar-

CHRISTMAS DAY: Births: Sir Isnac Newton, mathematician, physicist and astronomer, 1642; William Collins, poet, 1721; Dorothy Wordsworth, writer, 1771; Clara (Clarissa) Harlowe Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, 1821; Charles Pathé, film pioneer, 1863; Mo-hammed Ali Jinnah, statesman, 1876; Maurice Utrillo, painter, 1883; Conrad Nicholson Hilton, hotel propri-etor, 1887; Dame Rebecca West

etor, 1887; Dame Rebecca West (Cecily Isabel Fairfield), author, 1892; Humphrey DeForest Bogart, actor, 1899; Cabell (Cab) Calloway, jazz singer and band-leader, 1907; Anwar Sadat, statesman, 1918. Deaths: Pope Adrian I, 795; Sir Matthew Hale, Chief Justice and law reformer, 1676; W.C. Fields (William Christe Diventifield) connection 1046. Claude Dukenfield), comedian, 1946; Sir Charles Spencer Chaplin, comedian and film producer, 1977; Joan Miró, artist, 1983; Nicolae Ceausescu, former Romanian president, and his wife Elena, executed by firing squad 1989; Dean Martin (Dino Poul Crocetti), singer and actor, 1995. On this day: William I, "the Conqueror", was crowned in Westminster Abboy, 1066; Vasco da Gama sighted the African coastline of what is now Natal, 1497; the Mayflower arrived at Plymouth Rock, Massachur setts, 1620; the Great Frost of London began, when temperatures were 17 degrees below freezing, 1730; the first Christmas tree was put up at Queen's Lodge, Windsor, by Queen Charlotte, 1800; the Stone of Scone was stolen from Westminster Abbey, 1951: Vactav Havel, playwright, was elected president of Czechoslovakia, 1989; in the Soviet Union, President Gorbachev announced that he had resigned all offices, and that the union was officially disbanded - it would be replaced by a Commonwealth of Independent States, 1991. Tomorrow is Christman Day and the Feast Day of St Alburga, St Anastasia of Sirmium, St Eugenia and The Martyrs of Nicomedia.

Sex and the unique incarnation There is an old joke about a feminist Christmas card. It pictures a rather militant Mary addressing a bemused angel, with the caption "Tell Him 'No'. Not un-

less He's wearing a condom."
Theologians do not usually think of the doctrine of the virgin birth as being an act that involves a sexual commitment on anyone's part. In two of the Gospels, all Mary has to do is give her consent: the Magni-ficat - a resounding "yes" to God. And the finer details of how Jesus came to be flesh are lost to the more interesting stories about the nasty Herod, enthusiastic shepherds, wise men and even more angels. In classic Christian iconography, Mary is por-trayed as conceiving Jesus through her ear - she heard the word, and so Christ was formed. Aural sex has never been more

Traditional Christian doctrine affirms, through the Chalcedonian Definition (451 AD), that Jesus is both "truly God and truly man . . . two natures, without confusion, change or division, preserved and combined in one person". This definition, like so much early Christian doctrine, was an attempt to express the mature mind of the Church, make sense of the mystery of revelation and salvation - define, but not confine God.

Yet there are real problems with imagining what it is like to be incarnate through a non-sexual act. Alas, there is little biological evidence to go on: no bones or tissues to analyse. Depending on your point of view, it is either resurrected to heaven, or buried in a long-forgotten grave. The genetic identity of Jesus's father cannot be known. There might once have been some hope. Several medieval cathedrals

Meanings of Christmas

The Rev Dr Martyn Percy, Chaplain of Christ's College, Cambridge, starts our series of devotional pieces for Christmas with a reflection on the

the claim as to who had the genuine foreskin of Jesus, following his circumcision (Luke 2:21). There was even devotion to this holy relic, and some mystics had experiences of and saw visions of its

complications of the incarnation.

power. But nothing has survived to this century. Theologically, this presents something of a challenge to the idea that Jesus was fully human and fully divine. How can you be a human person without having a human father? Surely flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone, is also DNA of our DNA? If Jesus does not have these human qualities, then how is salvation to be thought of? Gregory of Nazianzus (360 AD) said that "what was not assumed was not redeemed", arguing that if Jesus wasn't really human, we were not really

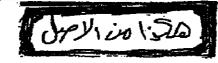
saved. Some modern theologians have attempted to side-step the issue. Even the most radical can usually assent to a statein Europe competed with each other over ment like "God was in Christ". The prob-

ing about a person uniquely imbued with divinity, infused with God as it were, a bit like a spice in a meal? Or another person who was a pre-existent being in the perfect communion of the Trinity, but who once learned carpentry skills?

No theological musings help the biological and genetic questions posed. But then, why should they? The early church didn't know anything about genes. It sought through its creeds, councils and controversies to safeguard unity, promote peace and snuff out heresy; and then to try and capture the mystery of the salvation wrought through the incarnation, in forms of words that did justice to a God that was sufficiently committed to humanity to become one of us. To live as a human, love like one, die as one, and vet

not let that be the end of the story. Heresy often seems to make more sense than orthodoxy - it is usually a reductive, comprehensible account of a mystery. Orthodoxy knows it cannot afford too much rationalism when it comes to the same, which is why it is so difficult to believe. But the struggle to think is always worth it, for without that, there can be no real living of the mystery. To follow Christ is to be caught up in ambiguity, to lose your certainty, to watch the light, but often in

the dark So, there is no theological solution to the biological questions. We can't really know what went on between God, Mary, Joseph, and the sheets. All there can be is poetry, faith, hope and love. And the inadequate theological formulas that try to configure the amazing reality of the Christmas story - that he is, somehow, "Emmanuel". God, with us.



Beware of the anti-hunting roundheads in full cry

ally ho! Hear those hunt sabs muttering; see those red coats much the hunting lobby bray about the fluttering. See the steam of hounds rising. Hark to the bark of Olde England saddled up. Yes, trussed up in hats and hair-nets, the fox-hunters are preparing for their annual, traditional Boxing Day meet. The Christmas ritual of chasing small wild animals across the countryside and screaming as dogs tear them to death is about to begin.

But this could be the last year for this risk-taking, fence-taking, life-taking sport. The aristocrats should be quaking in their riding boots: the round-heads are coming. The urban moralists of the New Model Labour Party have their hearts set on stopping the cava-

liers in full charge.

Keen to clamp down on anti-social practices of all sorts. Labour plan to reduce the drink-driving limit, and warn us of the dangers of not sending our children to bed on time. And yesterday the party confirmed that it will hold a free vote on hunting if it is elected next year. Given the views of most Labour MPs, that probably means that a strong Labour victory would be followed in quick order by a ban on hunting. If there is an undercurrent of melancholy as the hip flasks are emptied, and the horns are prepared, it won't be surprising.

It is easy to understand where Labour are coming from. There is have helped the little vermin weave

thrill of the chase and the skill of the riders, one simple fact remains: the end purpose of this sport is death. Killing for food, killing for protection, killing to manage the countryside; all these are essential and we shouldn't be squeamish about them. But the idea that people could be so proud of enjoying the kill is rather repellent.

Tradition is no defence. The fact that

families have been playing such games for centuries doesn't justify their heirs continuing to hunt today. For centuries people have been doing all sorts of appalling things – including badger baiting, cocklighting and working ponies until they dropped - that we have now made illegal. Compassion about animals isn't a fad for flaky urbanites, nor is it simply squeamishness; it is a measure of a society becoming gentler and more civilised. This newspaper wouldn't hunt.

But would we therefore ban it? We would not: the prospect of the state intervening to ban an activity where the harm to others is not overwhelming, troubles us deeply.

For a start, the cruelty case against fox-hunting is not clear cut. Foxes are not as fluffy as they look, Basil Brush and Roald Dahl - author of the children's classic, Fantastic Mr Fox - may something revolting about the idea of their way into our affections, but they



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-298 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-298 2435 / 0171-345 2435

are predators which have been con- ilar arguments about needless cruelty trolled for centuries by farmers and landowners, rich and poor. The antihunting lobby needs to make a more convincing case that other methods of slaughtering foxes are genuinely less cruel than hunting, before the arguments for a ban become overwhelming.

We should reflect, too, on our own hypocrisy about animal welfare. Foxhunting, most of us hate. But what about fishing? Anglers across the country clearly get great pleasure from their sport, although the purpose again is to main or kill, sometimes without actually catching anything to eat. Sim-

should apply to fish as to foxes. But, funnily enough, few saboteurs are ever seen charging along the canal banks, screaming slogans at raincoated anglers. Is it a class thing?

We are on equally tenuous ground with the food we eat. Many of us happily condemn blood sports while condoning the needless cruelty against animals that goes on for the sake of our dinners. Chickens don't have to be kept in such vile conditions to deliver us eggs and white meat. But so many consumers still prefer to turn a blind eye to the pain that is caused, for the

hunting among all these animal welfare issues because we loathe the lifestyle and the traditions that go with it. Hunting remains the preserve of a tiny, predominantly wealthy, minority. At a time when the royals and their aristocratic entourage are more out of touch with the real world than ever, the majority of the population are impatient with their rituals, their power and their privileges. Prince Philip's chucless remarks about shooting and cricket bats only rammed home how detached they are. And stories of Prince William's enjoyment of stag hunting disappointed many, for they forced the country to recall that he wasn't simply another cheery, baseball-hatted young

ster, he was one of them. But none of this is really the point. Britain is full of people who do things others strongly disapprove of: pornographers and gas-guzzlers, boxing enthusiasts and stone-cladders, conceptual artists and sado-masochists, motocross manies and urban skateboarders. But before we leap in to call for a ban, we need to be absolutely sure that the offence is so great that the power of the state is needed, and that the curb on individual freedom is warranted. After a lot of thought, we decided that this case had been made for a handgun ban, after Dunblane. But the libertarian argument which lost that

sake of a cheaper shopping trolley. one is not insignificant. We should be The truth is that we single out for-unting among all these animal welfare away the pleasures of minorities to salve the conscience of the majority.

New Labour should concentrate on the harder, more important things: political reform, more efficient public services, fairer taxation. If its MPs want to take on the aristocracy, then let it be through the abolition of the House of Lords. The roundheads took too many liberties away - and what happened to them in the end?

Let the tills ring out glad tidings

The decision by some supermarkets to L open continuously till close of play today will be widely booed. It ought to be welcomed. It is a further experiment in the liberalisation of retailing hours in a country which has some way to go in matching consumer preference and sup-plier convenience. Most of us will forego the chance to buy baked beans - or the turkey - at 2am. But if there are enough late-working or insomniac shoppers to make it worthwhile for Tesco to stay open, no one should stop them. Provided the staff are paid fairly and the stores' neighbours are not disturbed let those with a passion for midnight encounters at the frozen food cabinet enjoy them.

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

Lack of vision | sustainable future; it should demonstrate how we can beneath the 'dustbin lid'

Sir. Richard Rogers was unconvincing in his defence of what you call his Greenwich dustbin lid ("Welcome to the pressure dome", 23 December), and did not sound convinced himself. He seems not really interested in the millennium event. His own agenda is his pet project for the Thames. It is not that Lord Rogers's

vision is wrong-headed. His idea for a "string of pearls", with the superb monuments of Parliament, St Paul's and the Tower strung along it, is beautiful. We should be trying to re-create the beauty Canaletto once painted, turning I ondon's river once more into a rival of Venice or Dresden.

But his failure is no more than the failure which has characterised this fiasco since its inception. What is this Greenwich millennium monument going to be about? What ideal that we carry on into the next millennium will it seek to express? He has failed because we have not told him what we wanted.

Peter Popham condemns the autocratic hubris of many 20thcentury architects, who thought that they could supply the spiritual vision and meaning lacking in their society. Such attempts never work: architects can only express for us a commonly held vision - consider the great medieval cathedrals, and the buildings of aristocratic 18thcentury England

We have got to work out those ideals for ourselves. We haven't yet even started to do so, and we have no idea what the millennium should be about. You have rightly called for such a debate to start. Throughout society our concern over our loss of direction and purpose is obvious and growing.

Perhaps Lord Rogers is right in saving that we can only plan a temporary exhibition for the year 2000, and the real building will be that which comes later. But that lasting monument, a complement to St Paul's Barry's House of Commons and Wren's Greenwich, is something we should all be thinking about and planning. Your most serious indictment of the Greenwich fiasco so far has been a lack of such public consultation. It is time for us all to think, and to speak out. MICHAEL QUINN Reading, Berkshire

Sir. As the litany of the Millennium Commission's exhibition continues with its faltering progress ("Labour deals blow to millennium festival", 23 December), you reasonably ask for ideas (leading article, 13

December, letters, 18 December). What better demonstration of time past, with Greenwich looking to the future, than to use the great historic buildings along the Thames as the exhibition, with Greenwich as the jewel in the crown?

The historic buildings are built. We have three years to make a living exhibition in each. The costs would be nominal compared with those mooted for the present ideas. The river would be brought to life; due to the spread of events the London transport system might just handle the millions of visitors foreseen, which with the present scheme it has little chance of doing: and we would leave behind some wonderful exhibitions which could continue. The interest of many other sponsors could be engaged.

Turning to Greenwich, this would become one part of a 20mile exhibition, and thus could become very much smaller. It should be about how we see a

harmonise the disparate aspects of our lives for our survival in the new century - resources, peoples. religious, science, medicine, architecture and art - and cannot rest on the spurious notion that we can buy ourselves out of our responsibility for long-term thinking with a trade fair. The greatest minds in this country and beyond should be invited to ponder this future and advise on a serious approach to these issues. RICHARD BURTON Ahrends Burton and Koralek, London NWI

Sir: I believe that the ill-fated millennum festival should be scrapped and replaced with a noncommercial, non-political, evereen investment in this country The "monument" I propose would be accessible to everyone, enhance the landscape and give this generation the opportunity to have a stake in our society.

I suggest that wasteland is reclaimed in each of the main regions of Great Britain - Southeast, South-west, Midlands, North-east, North-west, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland - for the purpose of building a series of people's parks. The design of the parks would be co-ordinated professionally but based on ideas from the schoolchildren of that

The parks would provide not only a green and growing monument to the past, but also a signpost to the future. KATE RUTHERFORD

Respectable folk failed rape victim

Sir: It is evident that no good 23 December).

There were two other characters in the plot, moreover two respectable characters, a priest and a Levite. The unpalatable fact is that these two niddle-class respectable Britain than does the Samaritan. Samaritans were despised by respectable Jews, who didn't consider there was anything "good" about them.

hundred respectable people.

Jesus understood the nature of the people to whom he spoke and after 2,000 years his biting condemnation still hits home. Dr J P STEVENS

Anti-Tory tactics

Sir: Earl Russell must know perfectly well that the Liberal Democrats are not going "to come into power" at the next election whatever they promise (letter, 20

December).
Since they clearly are serious about constitutional reform they would do well to encourage tactical voting in every constituency where the two major opposition parties are simply cutting each other's throats. Targeted tactical voting could be a major factor in achieving an overwhelming Tory defeat and thus the removal of the largest obstacle to constitutional reform. BRUCE KENT

Samaritans drove by on the night of the rape in Watts Lane, Chislehurst ("Why good Samaritans drove by", Read once more the parable.

people more nearly describe most of

What the unfortunate victim needed was for a homeless, destitute asylum-seeker to pass by, not several

London N19

Co-Chair The Tactical Voting Campaign

London N1



Christmas before television - The Illustrated London News, 1847

British action weakens UN

Sir: There has been little media coverage of the British Government's recent announcement to withdraw. following the example of the United States, from the United Nations Industrial Development

Organisation (Unido).
It is quite unjustified. Unido has over recent years radically reformed itself on lines which Britain and other Western countries have urged. Its work in the field of developing country industrial sustainability is unique in the UN system.

Unido may or may not be abolished as part of a more sweeping UN reform process. But in the meanwhile any unilateral decisions on withdrawal from individual agencies encourage the unravelling of an already weakened

UN reform needs to be taken

seriously, and should be a foreign policy priority for the next government.
JOHN GORDON Liberal Democrat Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for

Daventry London, N6 The writer is a former member of the diplomatic service

Sir: In her article on the "weightless economy" (19 December), Diane Coyle referred to the estimate by the Bank for International Settlements that more than \$1,000bn worth of currencies were traded daily in 1995. To the extent that this trade is largely speculative dealings it is, like all gambling, a suitable target

for taxation. As Diane Coyle points out, these transactions cannot be ascribed to any particular country but take place in cyberspace. Any taxation would then have to be levied internationally and be universally accepted. The obvious body for this is the United Nations - which could be authorised by an agreement of all the member states to impose a levy on all short-term currency transactions of a speculative nature.

the UN with an independent source of funds for its peacekeeping and other activities as well as providing a greater degree of stability for national currencies. GEOFFREY GREENHALGH Crawley Down, Sussex

Assessment-mad

Sir: You report ("Where the money goes", 19 December) that research is being done at Brunel on the university research assessment exercise. I suppose that the next research assessment will assess this research on research assessment. Is this what universities are for? IAN ANDERSON Department of Mathematics University of Glasgow

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk). E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

True to spirit of Reading Room

Sir: I should like to set the record straight concerning the future use of the Round Reading Room.

Marianne Macdonald ("The final chapter for library classic", 30 November) suggests that the room will "lose many original iron book stacks" and "be cut in half by a glass screen". As part of our scheme to open up Robert Smirke's magnificent inner courtyard, the book stacks surrounding the exterior of the Reading Room will be removed. These unseen stacks mostly date from the Thirties and Fifties; great care will be taken in removing the one original iron stack (which was altered in the

Thirties) and preservation options itation of the Readm Room will be unobtrusive and sensitive to the architecture and furniture. We should certainly not support Malcolm Campbell's solution of taking the furniture out of the very room for which it was designed (letter, 19 December). Indeed, those who visit the Reading Room in the year 2000 will see the interior restored to its original decorative scheme of 1857, the walls lined with books from the

Museum's own libraries. Our plans have at no time included turning one of the finest examples of library architecture into "a shopping mall" or, as Tony Garrett remarks (letter, 4 December), "a computer café". As any current reader knows, the Reading Room already houses computer terminals and many readers use their own lap-tops.

After the departure of the British Library, the Reading Room will continue to be a place for serious study. Far from being party to the signing of the Reading Room's "death warrant", we believe that we have developed a valuable and sympathetic scheme for its future us R G W ANDERSON Director The British Museum

Conflicting rules for blood donors

Sir: Every year we have appeals from the National Blood Transfusion Service for donors to give at Christmas, as supplies drop to very low levels. Yesterday, my wife and 1 attended a donor session for the South Thames Centre.

I normally give blood in London at the West End Donor Centre, run by the North Thames Centre, and had given blood there in September. They do not regard our April holiday in the Dominican Republic as a barrier to my donating. Recently, when I was called forward for the usual questions, I was asked if I had been abroad since I last gave blood. Answer: No. I then proceeded to give blood.

However, when my wife was called she referred to the April holiday, since it is over a year since she gave blood, and was told that she could not donate until a year had elapsed from the date of this holiday.

This morning I have checked with both blood centres. The north centre will and the south centre will not take blood. Indeed the south centre tells me that all centres will be following the rules they use and I too will be precluded from giving blood should we venture again to the more exotic shores for our

holidays next year. As long-haul destinations

become more and more popular, it appears that the current small donor base of the NBTS will become even smaller, at least by two donors, precipitating even greater shortages at Christmas. GRAHAM JARRETT Bromley, Kent

Sex 'norm' is just Western bias

Sir: Polly Toynbee's diatribe against Anne Atkins (9 December) reveals far more about her own rather narrow, monocultural world-view

than it does about Anne Atkins,
"In the real world," Ms Toynbee pontificates, "sex before marriage is the norm; and the idea of being locked in indissoluble marriage with someone you never had sex vith is grotesque." On really? Say who? As one who has spent the majority of my working life in the countries of South Asia, perhaps I may gently remind Ms Toynbee that, for countless millions in the world today, such a practice is still

the cultural and religious norm. I and my Egyptian relatives, my Nepali, Indian and Afghan friends. not to mention many British friends (of Asian ethnic origin and/or Christian convictions), find it patronising in the extreme to be told, by implication, that we do not inhabit "the real world" or that our cultural and religious norms are "grotesque", simply because they fail to conform to Ms Toynbee's superior and ethnocentric cultural perspectives. G K WARDELL Kathmandu, Nepal

Be fair to the Freemasons

Sir: May I correct some statements in the article "Masons linked to bullion heist" (19 December)? Kenneth Noye, who was involved in the Brinks-Mat bullion robbery, was expelled from Freemasonry in 1989. No one else involved in this

robbery was a Freemason. The Grand Lodge of Scotland has

repeatedly denied that Thomas Hamilton was a Freemason. There are no Lodges in the House of Commons. There are two Lodges primarily, but not exclusively, for MPs or people who work in and for Parliament they meet at Freemasons' Hall. One of them, New Welcome, was founded in 1929 partly because it was felt that the Labour MPs of the

day might appreciate the chance of becoming Freemasons in a London It is ironic that some of their successors feel that they may be deselected if they are Freemasons, because their constituents misunderstand Freemasonry and do not care to be told anything good about it. M B S HIGHAM Grand Secretary United Grand Lodge of England London WC2

Marilyn's size

Sir: I am sorry to disappoint Dr David Ashton but Marilyn Monroe was not "voluptuous" (Letters, 20 December). He appears to have accepted the myth, as did The Independent in its feature on 16 December that Monroe was a size 16. Monroe had the gloriously thin figure of 35-22-35. Can the "circumferentially challenged" now stop hiding behind this myth? STEPHEN DORRIL West Yorkshire

Twelve years after Band Aid, millions are still condemned to poverty by the burden of Third World debt. It's time for a gesture of goodwill from the West, says Paul Vallely

'ou may as well stop reading this now. This is not a subject which most of us find comfortable in this season of indulgence and over-consumption. After all, you can take this goodwill-toall-men business too far.

"Do they know it's Christmas?" sang Geldof and Co a dozen years ago; and one of the most shocking things about the Ethiopian famine of 1984 was that its appearance on our screens at the height of Band Aid coincided with the cornucopia of our Yuletide fest. It was the juxtaposition which made that particular disaster - though it was in reality only one among many - sear itself on to the conscience of the Western world.

It always seemed to me that the contrast between those stark scenes of crisis in Africa and our normality were made more unbearable by the fact that most people watched the TV footage from living rooms which were warm and well stocked with seasonal fare, and trimmed with the elitter and tinsel of our celebration.

For me, it was different. I was sent out to cover it. And oddly enough, though there were scenes of awfulness which it may be impossible ever to forget, it was a mitigated experience. For those of us who were there came upon the terrible scenes gradually, after a two-day journey in two-day drive north across the

There was a process of acclimatisation. And if it was a journev of horror it was not one of despair, for most of the travel- which I had periodically put



thought: Bob Geldof in Ethiopia. It was the juxtaposition of the 1984 famine with our festive comucopia that seared itself on to the West's

Famine, with all the trimmings

of aid workers who brought margins to absorb sudden set- are not neutral in this situation: with them hope - albeit a bare, minimal one - to the destitute folk we came across in the dusty plain of Korem.

No, it was not the emerency which struck me most forcibly, there in Ethiopia and in the dozen or so other African countries on which I reported in the next five years. What was most shocking was not the dire circumstances of those devastated by drought and famine. Rather, it was the baseline on which most Africans lived their ordinary life, when things were going well.

It was an existence of such material paucity that even the smallest difficulty could push these people into a crisis of life and death. They routinely lived on tiny handfuls of cereal with only a few scrubby vegetables to give the minimal staple any relish. The children showed signs of vitamin deficiencies of all kinds. Their frail, stunted little those slimming regimes on backs. To live there was to live clinging constantly to the edge

o what has this to do with Christmas? Only this: that a season of goodwill ought to extend beyond those we meet to those who live outside our immediate horizons.

And yet the reality is the opposite. For this is not so much a time of goodwill as an era of bad faith, in which, whether we are aware of it or not, we take away from the poor with one hand far more than we give them with such ostentation, in our diminishing aid budgets, year by year.

The truth is that our sophisticated times have developed ever more sophisticated mechanisms for ensuring that the fifth of the world's population who go to bed hungry - almost frames made me ashamed of all 1,000 million people - are maintained in that poverty because it is in our interests to keep the ling was done in the company myself. Theirs was a life with no world ordered in that way. We

we are part of the problem.

Two recent reports have highlighted the paradox. They sound arcane. One, by Oxfam, named Trade Liberalisation: the Corn Sector in the Philippines, looks at issues of international trade. The other, The Highly Indebted Poor Coun-tries Initiative, by Jubilee 2000, considers the issue of Third World debt which, though it never now makes the headlines, lingers as a crushing burden on the shoulders of the world's poor, handicapping

their efforts at self-sufficiency. The reports may sound obscure, but they deal in issues which are all too literally life and death matters for those millions in the Third World who daily clutch at the straws of survival.

Listen to the rhetoric of the politicians, and you gain no idea of this. International trade, they say, since the recent over from the previous General (Gatt), has become much more of a "level playing field". Now the interests of rich and poor alike will prosper under a system of increasingly fair trade.

struggling to achieve even 2 per cent at home). So while the

The argument by the advo-cates of the WTO, which met earlier this month in Singapore, goes something like this: increased trade will act as a spur to increased efficiency across the globe; it will bring increased investment by the rich in poor countries; and in the long run evervone wili benefit.

The devastating report by Kevin Watkins of Oxfam's policy unit spells out what the short- and medium-term consequences of that will be to 6 million of the Philippines' millions of the poorest individuals in the world.

He chose for his study the corn markets of the Philippines. but they are a microcosm of markets in a whole range of commodities in countries across the Third World. Over the past two decades parts of the developing world have developed very rapidly.

The Asian tiger economies have been so successful that the average person in Singa-pore and Hong Kong, for example, is now richer than the average citizen of the UK. But for most, the term "developing" is just a sick joke. At least 19 of the world's poorest countries are poorer today than they were in 1960. Yet Citibank, which operates in 97 countries worldwide, says that the return for inter- free trade will, in the long national investors in develop- run, maximise human welfare ing countries have averaged foundation of the World Trade what it calls a "spectacular" 30 Organisation (WTO) to take per cent (it is only 18 per cent as a worldwide average Agreement of Tariffs and Trade because the return on investment in the industrialised

> are doing better than ever from their dealings with them. The notion that trade and investment are what will help the world's poorest to begin pulling themselves up by their own bootstraps is what the Oxfam report considers. The effect on the ground of the agreement reached at the end of the Uruguay round of Gatt, which the WTO now adminis-

ters, is that the incomes of

world is much lower - Japan-

ese banks, for example, are

poor are doing worse, the rich

poorest farmers will be cut by 15 per cent by the year 2000, and by as much as 30 per cent of their present income by 2004. The cause of this is that

under the agreement the Philippines is now forced to open its markets to foreign imports of corn. Yet there is to be small change at the rich end: the European and US farmers with whom the poor will now directly compete are still mas-sively subsidised through the

Common Agricultural Policy and its American equivalents. Subsistence farmers in Mindanao, with average incomes of less than \$300 a year, will be forced to take on US farmers who, according to OECD figures, each receive \$29,000 a year in subsidies alone. Western policy-makers argue that everywhere, albeit with some regrettable transitional costs. In the long run, perhaps so if trade were truly free. But in

the short run, wasted and

stunted children, in areas

where a quarter of infants

already suffer from malnutri-

tion, will undoubtedly die. Oxfam suggests a programme

of measures which could mit-

igate the worst effects on these most vulnerable groups. So, too, does Jubilee 2000 in its report. There was a time when Third World debt was big news. In the Seventies the

whole world community benefited from the growth of this debt, which recycled inter-national capital flows generated by a series of oil price crises. In the Eighties it became clear that this money had been

distributed so recklessly by Western banks that there was a real possibility that the international banking system could collapse when the over-burdened debtors, beginning with Mexico in 1982, defaulted on the massive loans. The system was saved by a serious of complex deals brokered by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which

be crisis was over – for the banks. The world's poor, on the other hand, have labour to pay off these renegotiated deals. Last year these poor nations paid the IMF \$1bn more than it lent them in new shows, Africa has repaid what it borrowed one-and-a-half times over - axeing its health and education budgets to do so. And yet thanks to the miracle of compound interest it still owes more than it ever did.

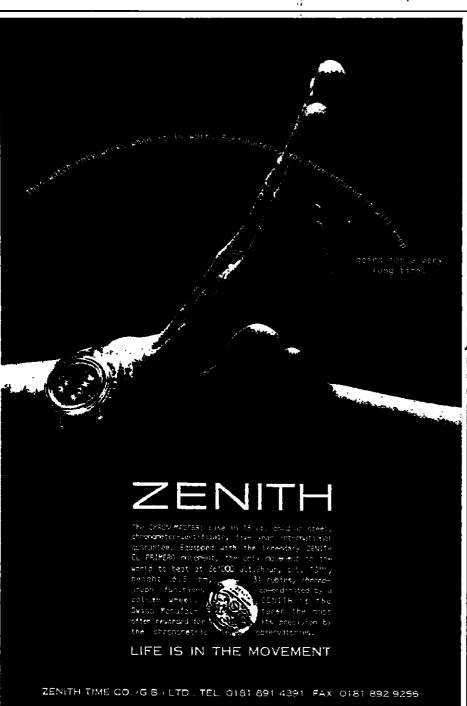
The poorest of the poor carry the burden of Third World debt like a man sinking in quicksand with an unnecessarily massive pack on his back. The double irony is that it is investment in human and social capital - that means health and education - which has produced such rapid tice. And in the measurowth in the tiger economies a merry Christmas. (64 per cent of growth comes from this, compared with only 16 per cent from investment in Unit, 274 Banbury Road, machinery, building and infra-Oxford OX2 7DZ; Jubilee 2000. structure, according to a recent PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT.

UNDP study of 192 countries). Jubilee 2000 sets out to put this right. Inspired by the Old Testament notion of Jubilee which required the forgiveness of debts and the freeing of slaves every 50 years, so that no one ever entirely lost their stake in contributing to the well-being of society - its co-alition of aid agencies and churches have devised a programme to reduce debt to a sustainable level, forgiving it entirely for the poorest nations, mainly in Africa, and reducing it to repayable levels since continued to or schedules in the middleincome debtor nations.

These are not outbursts of Christmas idealism, but practical programmes of realistic loans. The counter-intuitive measures. All they need to truth is that far more money some is political will. There are flows from the poor to the rich signs that this may be achievthrough debt repayments than able; the British government, goes the other way in aid. To in particular, has made some date, the Jubilee 2000 report sensible proposals to the industrialised world on the deht issue. But there is much more needed to be done.

When the plum pudding has settled, the discarded wrapping paper has been tidied away and the attractions of Boxing Day television have palled, why not follow up our modern Christmas with an act of goodwill of equal modernity? In the dull time between Christmas and New Year you might put pen to paper to ask these campaigners what there is you can do to help change these structures of injustice. And in the meantime, have

Kevin Watkins, Oxfam Policy



Christmas Eve – isn't that a girl's name?

oday - a special Christmas story, entitled "A Special Christmas Story"! A reader writes: Oh, come

ON! Not another special Christmas story! Why do all Christmas stories have to come out at Christmas-time? Why not have a few in summertime when we really need them? Give us a rest!

Miles Kington writes: On

the contrary, every time you open the paper you don't find Christmas stories, you read long reports about white Englishmen playing cricket against other white men in the heart of Africa, long-drawn-out reports of long, drawn matches between people we don't care about, in sunshine

know and people we don't which the rest of us would pay a fortune to have! What a waste! Every time I switch on Long Wave and hear the commentators burbling on, I think to myself that that sunshine is wasted on these flannelled fools!

A reader writes: I know you don't like pedantry, but shouldn't that be "flanneled" with one 'l'. not two? Miles Kington writes: No.

I looked it up in the dictionary just now and apparently they spell it with one 'l' in the USA and with

two in Britain. A reader writes: Well, what do you know? Thank you. I didn't know that. I find I learn something new from this column every year and, although you have left it very late in 1996, I have learnt

something new again this year. Miles Kington writes: Not at all: I too learn a great deal from my readers. A reader writes: Oh, yeah? Like what? Miles Kington writes: Well, let me think. I learnt

that there is a body which that Joyce Kilmer was a has been formed solely to get Michael Howard out of office. It is called the Penal League for Howard Reform. A reader writes: Ha, ha. Very droll.
Miles Kington writes: And Carey? A man!

true, too. And I also learnt something when I referred in print to the American poetess Joyce Kilmer. A reader writes: What did you leam?

Miles Kington writes: That she is a he. Hundreds of readers wrote in to point out my gender error, and



Miles Kington

World Vier One soldier. A reader writes: Well, maybe Joyce is a male name in America and female here. Miles Kington writes: I think not. What about Joyce

A reader writes: What about Joyce Grenfell? Miles Kington writes: What about Vai Kilmer? A reader writes: Well, what

about her? Who is she? Miles Kington writes: Not a she. A he. An American actor. Batman and so on. A reader writes: A man

for? Valerie? A girl's name! Miles Kington writes: Not in Russia. Do you remember the sprinter Valeri Borzov? Or the jazz trumpeter Valeri

Ponomarev? A reader writes: Russian jazz trumpeter? Are you

having me on?
Miles Kington writes: No, certainly not. I never joke about jazz. But in Val Kilmer's case, Val must be short for Valentine. Think of Sal, too.

A reader writes: Sal? Sally who?

Miles Kington writes: Not Saily. Sal. Don't forget that Sal is a boy's name in America. Remember Sal Mineo? Sal Salvador, the jazz guitarist?

A reader writes: OK, I give up. What's Sal short for? Miles Kington writes: Salvatore.

A reader writes: OK, let's rephrase the general rule. All Kilmers are the opposite sex of what their name suggests. Shall we agree on that?

Miles Kington writes: OK. And here's another general rule. The British think that foreign names are funny, except if they are

British foreign names.

A reader writes: I don't

quite get you ... Miles Kington writes: When foreign footballers with names like Cantona and Ginola come here, we think the names are very exotic. But we see nothing odd in much more exotic homegrown foreign names such as, to take rugby examples, Dallaglio and De Glanville. A reader writes: Hmm.

Hadn't thought of that. Miles Kington writes: The other day there was a discussion chaired by Vincent Hanna on Radio 4's Medium Wave between three people who are all English but have wonderfully flavoursome foreign names: David Aaronovitch, Marcelle D'Argie-Smith and Simon Sebag-Montefiore. A reader writes: Hmm.

Impressive. Vincent Hanna. did you say? Miles Kington writes: Yes.

A reader writes: Hanna is a girl's name, of course. Miles Kington writes: Yes,

I am afraid we never got round to the special Christmas story. Some time next summer, perhaps.

Do we do Christmas right?

Whether you're an atheist or an adiaphorist, an agnostic or an apathetic Christian, Sara Maitland wishes you a guilt-free holiday feast

showed me a Christmas card - it had been designed in the Far East but is for sale here. It depicts a traditional nativity scene in the foreground; shepherds, kings, lovely maiden and neo-natal child. In the background, high on a snow covered hillside, was Father Christ-mas, white beard, red coat and all, hanging on a crucifix. It was quite pretty, very Christmassy. I bet it sold well too.

Ho, ho, ho. Or something like

It seemed somehow an icon of our time. Christmas has, over the last century or two, become the major folk festival of Europe. Even Scotland, which for a long time hung onto Hogmanay as its mid-winter celebration - oddly enough as a form of Christian (Presbyterian) resistance to Christian (Roman Catholics) ritualism – has given in. Boxing Day may still not be a Bank holiday in Scotland but public Christmas trees, shopping centre Santas and carol services have all crept into common culture.

Perhaps it is not surprising, then, that like other older folk customs, Christmas is absorbing and integrating diverse elements and proessing them quite quickly into the "tradition". Turkeys, Father Christmas and robins, for example, have absolutely nothing to do with first century Bethlehem.

Like any other well-established

living myth, it is extremely difficult to decode Christmas honestly - no one really wants myths that they are living by explained away. In a deafening chorus of angels and cash tills, one might not notice that there are at least five very different groups (all of which cut across other boundaries such as class or ethnicity) celebrating or enduring Christmas this week. The Holy or Unholy Five are: (1) the believing Christians; (2) the "lapsed", or cultural, Christians; (3) the uninterested, called Adiaphorists; (4) the rigorous atheists; and (5) the members of other religions. It is not easy for

Perhaps it is easy for the rigorous atheist, or at least for those of them with enough money to leave a cold Britain for the beaches of warmer, non-European, non-Christian countries. Though even then they might find their hotel dinner fes-tooned with a kindly meant tinsel strip. If they aren't rich enough to get away, their only hope is to buy in an enormous quantity of food sometime in mid-October (the last chance to escape canned carol music, special Xmas offers and plastic bags printed with seasonal

ast week someone to watch a number of TV movies which, despite their ambience of sentimental nostalgia, do not actually mention Christmas.

They will, however, have to lock themselves in their houses for several days or face the irritating good cheer of their neighbours. And even this will only work if they do not have any children; children can be trained in parental firmness, but this tends to break down both under peer group pressure and within a quarter-mile radius of any sweet or toy shop.

So, unless you are rich and childfree, it is probably best to be a well intentioned Adiaphorist. An Adiaphorist is one who is indifferent on all matters of religion. While the-ists and deists believe in God, and atheists believe in not-God, and agnostics cannot decide which they believe in, Adiaphorists simply do not care. This useful word deserves to be better known; lots and lots of people are Adiaphorists nowadays. Adiaphorism is probably the fastest growing theological position in the country. A cheerful Adiaphorist can take whatever pleases them from the collection of customs and rituals of Christmas without a moments' worry. They can enjoy Renaissance Madonnas and the sweetness of treble voiced choirs as pure art. Or they can get indecently drunk, wear a silly paper hat, make sexual advances to unsuitable colleagues at the office party and wake up with a blinding headache - and all this, quite free from any obligation to wonder whether they have somehow missed the true spirit of Christmas.

They will pay a small price for this freedom in the disapproval of a few of their neighbours, and of the tabloid papers who shift at this time of year to a highly moralistic criticism of such people who are "spoiling" Christmas for the rest of us. They may pay a higher price in terms of a sort of loss; of magical joy or self-righteousness; but of course they do not really care about that.

eanwhile the cultural or lapsed Christians - many of whom are actually Adiaphorists, but who are too sentimental to have noticed - really love Christmas. They get an aesthetic and emotional buzz off it. They even go to Midnight Mass and shed a tear during the second verse of Oh Little Town of Bethlehem. It gives them a fabulous nostalgia for their own childhood and they honestly believe they are doing it all for the children. They feel happy and smug. The only price they have to pay is a tiny niggling guilt about feeling quite so good from sometical feeling quite all she's cracked up to be. plastic bags printed with seasonal thing that they totally ignore for the greetings.) With a bit of luck and other 51 weeks of the year. If they churches that is keeping them from greetings.) With a bit of luck and other 51 weeks of the year. If they churches that is keeping them from solutions, depending on the size What is sad is that if we lived in careful planning they may be able have a happy time this week, then their darling baby Jesus. By Good and accessibility of their own reli-



From dawn to dusk: Christmas means shopping amidst a deafening chorus of cash tills

New Year resolutions about going recovered. to church more often, giving more vation Army uses its Christmas collection to maintain its own brass

next week they may well be making Friday they will certainly have gious communities, their relations

by various other names (those members of religions that are in this respect at least like Christianity), to find an attitude to Christmas that is both charitable and honourable. There is no doubt a wide range of

with their neighbours, and the rigour It must genuinely be very difficult of their discipline. But, without faiths (and here I would include humanists, Marxist-materialists, and eco-spiritualists, among other secular disciplines) have the most theologically challenging Christmas. On the whole most manage a public face of benign indifference, or an amused tolerance that should be a

lesson to us all. What is sad is that if we lived in

this burden would be lifted from them. At least the Adiaphorists and many of the cultural Christians. promoters or both hedonism and spiritual uplift, could share many aspects of their religious celebrations. But while one minority religion dominates the cultural high ground is not likely to happen.

The real fly in this sweet ointment, sadly enough, is we believing Christians. Despite the fact that we actually stole Christmas from the pre-Christian winter solstice celebrations of northern Europe, and co-opted it to our own ends, we now act as though we owned it. We show every intention of hanging on to it too, by almost any means we can think of. And we do not seem to want anyone else to enjoy it. Only Christians, we appear to say, can dictate the "true meaning" of Christmas - and our Christmas means too often that you cannot do what you want.

s a Christian, I believe that a A unique and significant event occurred which, for complex and social but totally unhistoricial reasons, we especially celebrate in late December. This belief certainly lays obligations on me: obligations mainly of praise and thanksgiving. How these obligations can possibly be undermined by people having a good time in their own way is most mysterious. But most of the pews and pulpits and a preposterous amount of the media at this time of year, are dedicated to the peculiar notion that it is somehow good for people to act as though they believe something that they don't believe. Before they have earned the right to pull a single cracker, let alone consume an alcoholic drink, they must pass a spirituality test that will certainly include repentance for any material pleasure they are hop-

ing to enjoy.

What is odd about this attitude is that it is not Christian. Christians believe that what happened at Christmas was profoundly materialistic: God loved the world so much that the barrier between matter and spirit was broken by God becoming matter, not by us becoming spirit. And further more this did not happen just to a group of welltrained, biblically-sound Christians but to and for everyone.

The materialistic delight of nonbelievers, the sentimental aesthetics of half-believers, even the withdrawal of non-Christians are all perfectly appropriate responses - and often much more fun. But we Christians just feel hurt when people can't see it the way we do. Still, hurt feelings do not justify our insistence on flexing our cultural muscle.

There is a way out of this confusion. Perhaps all of Britain, should take a leaf from Scottish history and inclusive feast of hope at the turning of a new year. Nothing in this would stop Christians, a week earlier, having the most rigorously pious religious celebrations, which would inconvenience no one else and please at least some of us. It would be a massive step towards real tolerance and a multi-faith society, and it would even be more Christian.

Surely, you must be joking

They believe what? Y They believe God sent His only son to be born on Earth so that He could grow up to be tortured and executed? You must mean that as it turned out He was executed. but surely ... Come on! ... you're telling me He was tortured and executed because that was the whole point of His being born in the first place?

OK, OK, have it your own way, but why did God want His son to be tortured? As a punishment for His sins? Huh. Those must have been quite some sins. I'll say! What's that again? As a punishment for somebody else's sins? You're joking, of course, No? Well, whose sins was He being punished for? Adam's, Who's Adam? Adam didn't really exist? You're telling me God deliberately had His only beloved son fortured to death as a punishment for the sins of a man who never even existed? Wow, that's quite some God you've got there. I mean, didn't He ever hear of the laws of evidence?

Well, anyway, what were these sins that Adam, who never existed, was supposed to have committed? There was only one sin? Well, let's hear it then. What was the charge? This had better be good. Don'ttell me, let me guess. He was

caught scrumping apples.
Oh no. this I cannot bear. You are not serious! He was caught scrumping apples? Only one apple? And that was it. Well I'll be darned. What was that again? It may not even have been an apple, it is just described as a fruit? Well I guess it didn't really exist either, so it doesn't matter what kind of fruit it wasn't.

Run that by me again. Yeah. Yeah. OK, that sounds a bit less gross - it wasn't really Adam's sin: that's just a metaphor for all the sins of all mankind. Fine, fine. I suppose next you're going to tell me that includes those sins that hadn't yet been committed. Oh, it does? Yes, I reckon by now I should have

expected that. But if God had wanted to and our descendants' sins, why didn't He just go right ahead and forgive us - or them? What's with the beatings and the crucifixion? I guess He just loves capital punishment, huh? That's quite some role model you've got there.

Richard Dawkins

David Trimble's curious alliance

Donald Macintyre considers the real reasons for the **Ulster Unionist** deal with Sir James Goldsmith

s nall

verything David Trimble does in these uncertain times is larger than life, magnified and scrutinised for its electoral meaning.
The Ulster Unionist leader's potential to decide the election date by bring-ing the Government down in a confidence vote sees to that. So what is it, this bizarre link between Trimble and the international capitalist Sir James Goldsmith? Trimble has decided to allow his solitary MEP, Jim Nicholson, to join Sir James's Europe of Nations group in the European Parliament in group in the European Fainanch in return for an estimated £200,000 increase in Unionist campaign funds. The decision has infuriated his deputy, John Taylor, split his party, annoyed the Conservatives, and triggered all sorts of speculation about what

Trimble himself is up to.

Since his grip on his party in the
House of Commons is scarcely tighter
than John Major's on the Conservatives, it looks a little reckless. But given Trimble's pivotal role in the British Parliament over the next few months, it poses an immediate question: is this the beginning of a realignment on the British right, or just a cynical and mercenary quick fix? Or both?

It's quite a big moment: it appears to sever the increasingly frayed cord which has linked Conservatism and Unionism since the last century. It's impossible to imagine Trimble's predecessor, the old-school Sir James Molyneaux, playing fast and loose with the Tories like this.

Two hig changes have been visible



in the Tory party itself since 1979. One is obvious: that under John Major the Government has moved from pre-scriptive Unionism to one of theoretical neutrality over the Union. Underpinned by the principle that the future of the province should be whatever its people wanted it to be, it was this neutrality that was expressed by successive Northern Ireland secretaries, who said that London had no selfish strategic or economic interest in holding on to Northern Ireland. And this shift went largely unchallenged in the Tory party, because of the second, less obvious, change: that the intellectual leadership of Unionism within the party had begun to dissolve, at least in the House of Commons.

There is no longer an Airey Neave, or an Enoch Powell, or a John Biggs Davidson or an Ian Gow to provide that leadership. By demonstrating, albeit provocatively, that the Ulster Unionists are no longer blood brothers of the Conservatives, Trimble can true that Mr Taylor's outrage is someargue that he is doing little more

than holding a mirror to the Tories. That isn't to deny the strong whiff of short-term expediency about the Goldsmith deal for both parties. Sir James and his allies have been hunting for months for the single MEP who would take their numbers in the European Parliament from 17 to 18, thus qualifying it as a formal grouping and making it eligible for funds and to serve on key committees. The transfer gives Nicholson and Goldsmith more influence in the European Parliament. And by agreeing to pursue Sir James's Euro-referendum proposal in their general-election campaign, the Unionists benefit directly up to polling day. Two hundred thousand pounds is quite a lot of money in Northern Ireland politics. The move was strongly opposed by both Ken Maginnis, a UUP vice-president and the party's security spokesman, who is on the more liberal wing of the party, and by

Mr Nicholson's predecessor in the 1980s, he himself transferred from the mainstream European Democratic Group to the extreme-right grouping led by Jean-Marie Le Pen. And their claim that the move could cost them possible general election gains in East Belfast and North Down is doubtful.
The critics nevertheless have a powerful argument; that just at the moment when the party is trying to prove its modernity, it has linked up with one of the more eccentric groups in European politics. Some close to Trimble insist that his Euro-scepticism (he will be a sponsor of Teresa Gorman's new-year bill calling for a ref-erendum) is a vote-winner because of protestant suspicion of the EU in Northern Ireland. More impartial observers doubt this. For a start, the Unionist orthodoxy that Northern Ireland voted against joining the EEC in 1975 is really a myth: it's true that fewer voted to join in Northern Ireland than elsewhere in the UK, but what undermined by the fact that as there was still a 52 per cent majority

in favour, and there are signs that hos-tility to the EU has if anything mel-lowed. So it still looks as though cash is the main tangible benefit.

But something else has annoyed Trimble's critics even more. There is

a strong suspicion that David Burnside, lobbyist and close ally of Trimble. played a key role in sealing the match. Burnside refused to comment yesterday, but he has excellent contacts among the circle of right-wing Tories and former Tories who sympathise with Sir James. The only prominent member of this group actually to join Goldsmith is Lord McAlpine. But there are plenty of Thatcherite Tories - including some of those MPs in seats where Sir James has said he will not field candidates – who agree with his vision of a "renegotiated" relationship with Europe. And this may help to explain the symbolism of the move Trimble has made. For the UUP leader is almost certainly considering life after as well as before the election.

Trimble is probably genuine in sav-ing that the move will not give Sir James direct leverage at Westminster over the next few months. The ferocity of the reaction among his own MPs suggests that Sir James wouldn't be able to call their tune anyway. Unionist supporters of the deal maintain that they have paid a low price for instill-ing a little fear into the Government. Trimble's own hopes of the election outcome are no doubt complex, but the best prospect for him is probably a Labour government with a narrow majority which has to take the Unionists into account; and a Tory opposition which quickly transforms itself back into a full-bloodedly Unionist party under a new, right-of-centre leadership. Under those circumstances the rupture with Conservatism might be reversible. Trimble may have damaged his own standing with those Unionist MPs who rightly believe that to deal with Sir James it helps to have a long spoon. His judgement has been doubtful. But by flirting with Gold-smith, Trimble has sent out a clear message about the kind of Tory party he hopes for when the election is over.

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business & city

Pru ups stakes in battle for Northern

Business Correspondent

Northern Electric's increasingly chaotic battle against a £782m hostile takeover bid took another unexpected twist yesterday when its biggest shareholder, the Prudential, offered to buy shares in the company if other fund managers who had previously accepted offer from US power generator CalEnergy changed

Last night at least one investor, the US bank Salomon Brothers, was believed to have sold its stake to Prudential while another. Goldman Sachs, had been approached. Because the result of the bid was so close, even small purchases of shares by the Prudential could swing the result back to the Northern

A Prudential spokesman declined to comment on the development, apart from reiterating itss opinion that the

cheap. However a senior Pru- company. dential source confirmed that it was seeking to buy more Northern shares. He said the Pru-dential would buy the shares "if some stock was offered to us." He continued: "It's cheap at the

Rival fund managers were astonished by the news. One said offer in its hands. This is a bit racy for the Pru. It is quite an unusual stance for them to take."

shares were suspended yester-day at 641p pending appeals to the Takeover Panel, the Pru-dential was buying them "off market" by approaching willing sellers. The results of its buying spree are likely to be made pub-

lic to the Stock Exchange today. The move by the Prudential, which already owns 11.35 per cent of Northern and has remained staunchly loyal to the existing management through-out, was widely interpreted as

650p a share offer was too a much-needed boost for the

Last night the result of the bid continued to hang on a knifeedge as David Morris, Northern's chairman, mounted a desperate last-ditch appeal against last week's ruling by the Panel's Executive, which effectively holds the outcome of the

CalEnergy said it spoke for 50.13 per cent of Northern's shares, just enough to give it con-Though Northern Electric trol, but only if acceptances re-taires were suspended yester-ceived after the original Friday deadline were taken into account.

If the Panel decided to reverse its ruling and back the original Friday deadline, CalEnergy would have narrowly lost the contest, with 49.77 per cent of the shares. However if the Panel en-

dorses its decision and allows late acceptances to be included, was no special fee arrange-Northern's only chance to fight ment involved. off the attack would be to per-suade investors to switch back

to existing management. North- disclose the £250,000 "perforern's broker, BZW, has already mance" fee until Friday mornbeen barred from buying more of the company's shares by the

In another development both Northern and BZW could face disciplinary action after the Panel, which polices bids, announced that it was to investigate the circumstances surrounding the disclosure of a controversial £250,000 "performance" fee granted by Northern to its brokers, BZW.

It has emerged that Northern agreed to pay the fee last Thursday, the day after BZW bought 2.3 per cent of the company's shares in an attempt to breath new life into the bid defence. The share purchases were only pproved by the Takeover Panel on Wednesday after BZW as-sured the Executive that there

The Panel's investigation will to focus on why BZW did not

ing, hours before the offer was

In a statement the Panel said it would "investigate the cir-cumstances in which information was received from BZW, possibly having a bearing on certain purchases of Northern shares.... Following the investigation, the Executive will consider what, if any, further action

is appropriate."
However, sources suggested the investigation was likely to be separate from Northern's appeal against the extension. Meanwhile, speculation

mounted that other City bodies could be dragged into the row. Richard Farrant, chief executive of the Securities and Putures Authority, the City watchdog. said that if the Takeover Panel regarded the deal as having breached its rules it could be re-

ferred for investigation to the SFA.

Comment, page 13

Key players in the takeover drama

David Morris, chairman, Northern Electric: Aged 62. Joined as chairman before privatisation in 1989. Architect of the infamous "scorched earth" defence of the Trafalgar House bid, offering £560m of giveaways to share-

The only electricity chief to successfully fight off a hostile bid. His pay has doubled since the flotation in 1990 to £296,000 last year.

David Sokol, chairman, CalEnergy: Aged 40. Trained as an electrical engineer before starting his own business developing independent power

His alliance with Peter Kiewit, a large private US construction group, led to the rapid growth of CalEnergy to sales of \$398m last year. Apart from a liking for Rolex watches, Mr Sokol's character appears unblemished. Married his high-school sweetheart. Lives in Omaha, Nebraska. A committed Christian.

Simon de Zoete, chairman, BZW equities division: Joined de Zoete & Bevan in 1966, rising to chairman. In overall charge of Northern Electric broking account. Member of one of the City's oldest broking dynasties.

Adviser to many major US groups, including GEC, ICI and BAT. Played a leading role in Granada bid for Forte.

Derek Higgs, chief executive, Prudential fund manment division: Northem's biggest shareholder and Mr Morris's staunch supporter. Until last February he was

managing director of corporate finance for investment bankers SG Warburg, which advised Northern during its acrimonious defence of the Trafalgar House takeover bid.

He was seen as an unlikely appointment at the Prudential by insiders, having no prior background in fund man-

Alistair Defriez, director general of the Takeover Panel: Joined the panel in February from SG Warburg, where he worked with Mr Higgs, leading Northern's de-fence of the Trafalgar bid.

At the time he complained to the panel over a controversial share deal by Trafalgar advisers, Swiss Bank Corporation. Like Mr Higgs, Mr De-friez left Warburgs after the

Interest rates may rise as housing market firms

Peter Rodgers Financial Editor

The threat of further interest rate rises before the election was reinforced yesterday by minutes of the monthly meeting in October between the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, and Eddie George, governor of the Bank of England.

Mr George told Mr Clarke that the 0.25 percentage point rise which they both agreed to implement immediately on 30 October, to the surprise of the City, might have to be followed up with further increases to

keep inflation under control. The governor said that the quarter point "might well not be enough to moderate the upswing sufficiently to restore a better-than-even chance of achieving the inflation target over the next two years".

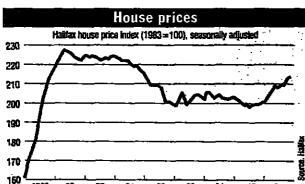
renewed predictions of a strong

ford Economic Forecasting, want activity in the housing which expected that house price inflation of 7 per cent a year could bring a sharp increase in

house sales in the near future. predicting a sustained recovery forecasted rises of up to 10 per cent a year over the next few years. But the key piece of evidence needed to show that the recovery is strong and sustained is a move to much higher turnover in the housing market. which has not yet materialised.

Turnover has been rising at about the same rate as prices. up 7 per cent on a year ago, but from a very low base of around 1.2 million transactions a year. However, the Oxford institute

said transactions could rise "fairly rapidly in the near future" to around 2 million at the end of the decade, not far short Mr George's warning came as of the previous peak.



market to get out of hand and would watch it closely". Activity was picking up but sales of houses in London were dis-Building societies have been torting the overall picture, which remained patchy, he said. in prices, and economists have Demand was high and supply was restricted as homeowners kept their houses off the market in expectation of further in-

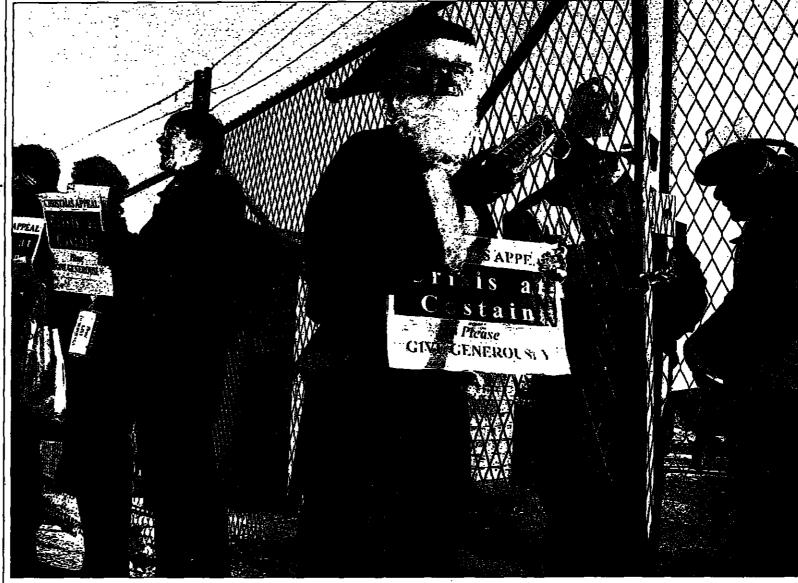
> Mr George said recent evidence showed overall inflation was less likely to be below the 2.5 per cent target "for any length of time in the short run. The Government has a medium-term target of 2.5 per cent for underlying inflation, which has been stuck at 3.3 per cent year-on-year for the past two months.

In an apparent reference to the political pressure to keep rates down ahead of the election, Mr George said "given pre-According to the minutes of sent expectations about the improvement in the housing the October meeting, the Chanconstraints on policy, a quarter market were published by Oxcellor said he "certainly did not per cent move now could have a relatively strong signal effect on the credibility of policy".

That would reduce the size and speed of the rise in rates that might eventually be necessary to make the inflation target secure and sustain the economic expansion. Explaining the background to

his recommendation of the October increase, Mr George said the need for tightening was urgent because output was growing above trend and the expected fall in price inflation had failed to happen.

Santa shakes it up in Newbury as attention is drawn to plight of Costain employees



Season of goodwill: Costain Independent Shareholders' Association yesterday launched a Christmas appeal for the welfare of staff and subcontractors of the troubled construction group. Carols were sung as Father Christmas shook a collecting tin outside a compound on the route of the controversial

Newbury by-pass, where Costain is

the main contractor. The action group was drawing attention to Costain's dire financial position.

"We decided to sing carois and collect on the site of the Newbury by-pass since this is deemed to be Costain's greatest liability," said Andrew Wood, CISA's secretary. "Our appeal is for Costain's unfortunate employees and subcontractors who stand to lose most if Costain goes into receivership." Two weeks ago Costain announced the resignation of its chief executive, Alan Lovell, is-

sued a profits warning, gave details of yet another share issue and announced the sale of its US coal business for far less than had been expected. Environmental

protesters plan to turn up at two shareholders' meetings called by Costain. On Friday Investors will vote on the coal disposal, while on 6 January they will consider Costain's breach of the Companies Act now that its net assets have fallen below half of the company's called-up share capital. Photograph: John Lawrence

RJB seeks share buyback

Tom Stevenson City Editor

RJB Mining is calling an extraordinary meeting next month to gain shareholder approval to buy in a turther 5 per cent of its shares. The company denied the move was an attempt to underpin its share price which collapsed two weeks ago following an unexpected profit forecast downgrade by the eval miner's own broker, BZW.

Gordon McPhie, finance director, said the proposed buyback would enhance earnings per share by about 2 per cent said the move, which follows a

purchase by the company of 10 per cent of its shares in July, was sent the shares as low as 3725p. compared with a high for the

per cent of its shares in July, was unrelated to the plunge in the BZW and a number of institushare price, which at one point tions which are unhappy at the way the broker encouraged them to invest in RJB in 1994 when it year of 625p and vesterday's acquired most of British Coal's close of 439p. assets only to cut its profit fore-

NSM, the heavily indebted coal miner, said its shares had been temporarily suspended yesterday pending details of the proposed sale of its Clee Hill plant hire subsidiary, other planned disposals and further information on its ongoing discussions with its banks. NSM said it had now completed the disposal of Clee Hill Plant in a deal which would reduce its debts by about £5m. It said a

number of other "significant disposals" were in train. The shares were suspended at 8p after NSM said it believed it was not possible to maintain an orderly market in the company's shares without full information on the disposals and the bank discussions, both of which were still progressing.

The sharp fall is understood casts to bring them back into line with the rest of the market. Two weeks ago Alan

Richards, who was ranked top of Reuters' 1996 survey of extractive industries analysts, reduced his forecast for 1997 from £196m to £185m and for 1998 from £232m to £192m.

Some analysts believe RJB faces serious problems once fixed-price contracts set up by the Government prior to the sale of the power generators run out in April 1998.

It is understood the company is struggling to persuade those generators to sign up to contracts after that date at a satisfactory price.

Deutsche Bank loses top rating

JBI Treanor

Banking Correspondent

Deutsche Bank was demoted from the élite club of triple-A rated banks yesterday, heaping further embarrassment on the German banking giant in the wake of the Morgan Grenfell Asset Management scandal.

The move by Moody's, the New York credit rating agency, means that only a handful of banks are still ranked in the financial world's premier league of creditworthiness and two of them - Union Bank of Switzerland and Dresdner Bank - are under review for a downgrade. Analysts in London said the

Deutsche downgrade was a fit-ting end to a dreadful year for Aa1. the bank. Deutsche will end up with a

bill for more than £400m for the fiasco at Morgan Grenfell where Peter Young, a former star fund manager, broke rules laid down by City regulators. Mr Young, under investiga-tion by the Serious Fraud

Office, set up a web of Luxem-bourg holding companies to hide the extent of his investments in high technology stocks. Deutsche is compensating 90,000 investors in three affected funds. Moody's can Deutsche's long-

term debt, counterparty and de-

bank's Prime-I rating for shortterm deposits and commercial paper but cut the long-term rating and counterparty rating of Morgan Grenfell & Co to A22 from A21.

Deutsche played down the significance of the downgrade. We are convinced that the new evaluation will not lead to a lasting rise in refinancing costs." said a spokesman. But the bank's shares slipped

in the last few minutes of trade on the Frankfurt stock exchange to close at DM70.59, down

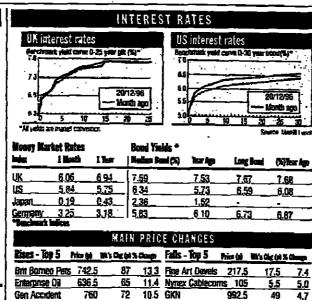
The agency confirmed the

Linda Montag, senior analyst at Moody's, said the Morgan Grenfell scandal was not the di-rect reason for the downgrade. "But [it's] one of the exam-ples of the risks of the bank's

global expansion," she said. The changing dynamics of Germany's fragmented banking market and fierce compe-tition in global markets in which the bank was expanding, such as investment banking. added uncertainty to the bank's fundamentals, Ms Montag

However, Moody's still believes Deutsche is "one of the world's strongest and better managed financial institutions".

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Shares row clouds Norwich flotation

Jill Treamor and Nic Cicutti

troversy yesterday as it emerged that many thousands of members in line for a free shares each may have been frauduyesterday said that it had yet to take disciplinary action against any of its staff for encouraging the sale and fraudulent backdating of insurance policies

gations that at least one of its UK offices had written to independent financial advisers The planned £4.5bn stock mar- encouraging them to sign up ket flotation of Norwich Union, new members and send them in the insurer, was mired in con- under its controversial "pipeline" rule.

It also came as the Personal investment Authority, the financial bonanza worth at least £500 regulator said it was investigating a number of alleged fraudlently recruited. Norwich Union ulent "pipeline" applications. It would not confirm that among its members under investigation is NatWest UK. NatWest confirmed it has suspended 18 of its staff for allegedly backdating Its denials came amid alle-policy applications.

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COMMENT

'In the long run, the furore over this affair might finally lead to the outlawing of the system whereby

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advisers are allowed to buy shares in companies they are defending, something which rarely serves the wider interests of other shareholders

Northern should be put out of its misery hind was the smell of scorched earth. This time around there is a whiff of something

To those outside the City, the dispute rag-ing between Northern, the US bidder CE Electric, and their respective advisers, might seem par for the course. Just the normal shenanigans you get in the dying days of any contested takeover.

deed for some it must be getting uncom-

But for those most closely involved in the drama played out before the Takeover Panel in the past week, it is clear that reputations and jobs are on the line. If heads roll then it will be an admission of guilt. If they do not then those outside the confines of the Square Mile will wearily interpret it as one more example of how, in the end, this cosy, self-policing club always looks after its own. Either way the standing of the City is di-

The "facts" of the case, in so far as we can unravel them from the miasma of explanations proferred by the Northern camp as it has dug itself ever deeper, are briefly these.

A week ago today BZW, Northern's brokers, asked for a "performance fee" of £250,000 for its conduct of the defence in addition to a flat fee of £1.5m. Northern declined to commit itself. The following day BZW and Northern's bankers, Schroders, went into the market, with the approval of

The last time Northern Electric defend-the panel, and bought 2.3 per cent of North-ed itself against a hostile bid all it left be-ern – a clear spoiling tactic designed to thwart

the bid. The next day, Thursday, Northern agreed, after all, to pay the performance fee. On Friday, the day the bid closed, BZW decided to inform the panel of the performance fee, having failed to do so on two previous oc-

When the votes were counted, BZW's 2.3 per cent turned out to be crucial, the bid having failed by less than 0.3 per cent. All hell broke loose and the panel agreed to extend the bid deadline until 1pm today.

BZW now asks us to accept that there was no link between the fee and the purchase of the shares. Indeed, it now says that the fee did not relate to this bid at all but to its help

in defending Northern against Trafalgar House 18 months ago. So far, so clear as mnd. But wait, there is more. Acceptances rolling in over the week-end tip CE Electric over the magic 50 per

ceni mark. This prompts the Prudential, number one member of Northern's fan club with 11.35 per cent, to start a frantic phone round in an effort to persuade shareholders who had accepted the offer to withdraw their acceptances and sell to it.

The Pru is now facing some tricky ques-tions, not least of which is why it is prepared to spend even more investors' money to frustrate the bid - an outcome which would see So too is the Takeover Panel, whose han-dling of the affair has not demonstrated great and for all. was still to come, and the election might have and for all. was still to come, and the election might have

It does not help that the chief policeman in all this, Alistair de Friez, director general of the Takeover Panel, was, in a former life, the Warburgs merchant banker who helped Northern see off Trafalgar House. Nor does it help that the Pru's head of fund management, Derek Higgs, was previously head of corporate finance at Warburgs.

But the biggest questions of all remain to be answered by BZW. The investment bank was already having a hard time under its new chief executive, Bill Harrison. Since his arrival on a £5m package, morale has collapsed under an avalanche of sackings and defections. The questioning of its behaviour in the Northern bid could not have come at a worse

In the meantime, there is a slim prospect that CE Electric will lose the bid when the offer closes today, having thought it had won. That would represent an unfair victory for Northern and its advisers.

In the long run, the furore over this affair might finally lead to the outlawing of the system whereby advisers are allowed to buy shares in companies they are defending, something which rarely serves the wider interests of other shareholders.

But we rought call be left with the decade.

But we would still be left with the dread prospect of Northern Electric Mark Three. For everyone's sake at this time of goodwill to all men, let us hope that this regional elec-

Pressure is on to push up interest rates

Touse prices are rising at three times the Tate of inflation, shopkeepers appear to be having a good Christmas, unemployment ing rather elusive.

Given these pressures, there is no doubt that the next monetary meeting between the governor and the Chancellor in mid-January will be more than usually interesting. The City is convinced that the Bank will be angling for a further rate rise. There almost certainly should be one or more, if only

to keep the housing market under control According to the minutes of the October monetary meeting, released vesterday, the Chancellor agreed with the Bank's recom-

mendation of a rise in interest rates. But, not surprisingly, he expressed no view on the Governor's clear suggestion that further upward movements would be necessary.

sterling is not helping to curb inflation.
Politically, January will be very different

seemed a whole winter away. The polls will be looming very large indeed, and Mr Clarke would need all his toughness to defy his political colleagues and side with Mr George. A spring of rising mortgage rates is not the best of backgrounds for an election.

There are a number of clear indications that inflationary pressures are building. But the one the Government has most difficulis falling unexpectedly fast, and the Gov-ernment's 2.5 per cent inflation target is look-stance is the housing market, since a recovstance is the housing market, since a recov-ery is so essential to the feelgood factor.

Building societies claim that overheating in parts of London is an oddity caused by an influx of Hong Kong money and by enormous City bonuses, and they insist that this localised bout of wild inflation will not seep out into the rest of the South-east or into other regions. The Chancellor took the same hopeful view in the October minutes.

But since then, there has been a growing consensus that house prices nationally will rise 7 to 10 per cent a year for the next few years, a rate which most forecasters agree will soon lead to the long awaited surge in house sales.

The idea that the London market is different and self contained has been proved Indeed, the minutes show him bluntly rejecting the Bank's view that the strength of and will be again this time. Though it will read badly in the headlines, the housing recovery is getting to the point where it will in atmosphere from October, when the mot be stopped by a few more quarter-point

What do you remember of events during the tenth anniversary year of 'The Independent'? Test yourself with our Christmas quiz.

A year of fat cats and takeovers

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

1 How much did Frankie's Seven-Up cost the bookies?

2 A hundred of what units will make up a Euro? 3 Which Scrooge criticised exuberance this party season?

4 How many Deutschmarks could you get to the pound at the start of 1996? (a) 2.22 (b)

5 Who ignored whose advice cepted it in March and October?

2.35 (c) 2.50

6 Who had to scrap most of 3 The £500m takeover of its Budget spread bets and why?

7 Who wants to revert from November to March to avoid a double-whammy?

8 Which City PR man won £20,000 in damages playing Dirty Tricks?

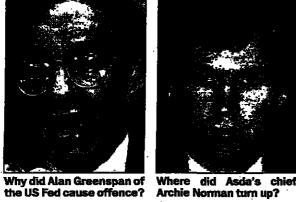
9 Whose special dividend scheme taxed the Chancellor's patience too far?

10 Which fund manager is praying for a stock market crash?

BIDS AND DEALS

1 Which brewer failed to get

into bed with a Dane?



which high street company was agreed in January but still not completed in December?

4 Whose car parts came together to make a bigger whole?

same company ended in a watery gravé?

cert Party? 7 Why did the Sun shine on

8 Which insurer developed a liking for pets?

9 Who thought it would be al-



tronics company decided Sugar was not to its taste?

5 Which two bids for the self?

6 Who got together in a Con-

right to merge but then got cross in the Channel?



agreed to merge?

DEPARTURES

1 Whose stock fell out of favour with the Exchange?

2 Who got rid of a Tiny problem and then sold out him-

3 Which Lord did a four-way split and then said goodbye?

4 Which Sheffield entrepreneur's retail empire is now more Dead than Red?

5 Whose home improvements cost him his job?

6 Who lasted just six months in Coronation Street land?

ARRIVALS

1 Who made an Ab Fab debut on the Exchange?

2 Which fishing port did Lord Hanson put on the

3 Which Britt took a train ride on to the market?

4 Whose Norman conquest took place at Tunbridge

5 Who got into hot water by deciding to live in Kent, not

6 Which insolvency practic-tioner followed a famous father into the Lord Mayor of London's robes?

SCANDAL!

1 Who had to pay back part of his bonus after a DIY accounting error?

called Sandra?

5 Who got caught rat trading in Hong Kong?

made £36m? 6 Who came back to Britain and got 5 years for money laundering?



Edina and Patsy of the television series 'Absolutely Fabulous' were associated with a new arrival on the Exchange

2 Who had a fondness for

pickled gherkins and a lady 3 Which "shadow director"

failed to show up in court? 4 Who copped it after cost-

ing his employers £1.6bn?

Who got off and was then 4 Who finally bowed out told he didn't have to stand after having a pig, not a gas, of a time?

FAT CATS I Who was crowned King of the Fat Cats in a mock coro-

nation ceremony? 2 Which train chief took a

5 Who got £5m for changing jobs in the City?

QUOTE, UNQUOTE

1 Who said: "When I was a small businessman I was quite skilful at stringing along ride with Stagecoach and the creditors."?

3 Who cleaned up by selling 2 "Trust must exist in a democratic capitalist society misunderstood me. ??

between shareholders and the people who run their parting note was this?

3 Who said: "I'll be back" after losing the mother of all

5 Who said: "If I've made my-

SPORT IN THE CITY

*

1 Which supermarket chief is now charged with restoring English cricket?

2 Which chemicals chief sits 💥 on the committee of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club?

4 Who said: "The buck starts 3 Which two bidders failed to win the contract to televise the Premier League?

4 Which television mogul saw self too clear you must have his takeover approach rebuffed by the Red Devils



*

*

Why did Cedric Brown

Chairman of video group VCI 4 Channel Four's Michael Grade who is also untuosuos uotuo (dnout) 3 United News and Media 2 Sir Ronnie Llampel, chairman of ICI Test and County Cricker Board ן דיסום אלמג במוחיה, כאמוחיים אין Tesco and the

> 2 Lord Weinstock of GEC ן אַוּכּניסק דוַכּצקונטכ **ΘΩΟΙΕ΄ ΩΝΘΩΟΙΕ**

SPORT IN THE CITY

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SIN PORCO FORE

(under outside (agent)

WZ8 to wincom 5 Bill Hamison, who left Flemings to become chief 5 Cedric Brown, chief executive of British Gas 3 Mathew Corbett, som of Harry, who sold



remain in the spotlight? Hanson put on the map?

Which fishing port did Lord With whom was Michael Lawrence at odds?

Colin Amstrong of Amtine Flen то соррет а Дий

prospective Conservative candidate for the said

caught under a cloud? the Tank Engine s britt Alleroft, owner of the rights to Thomas d Millenium Chemicals

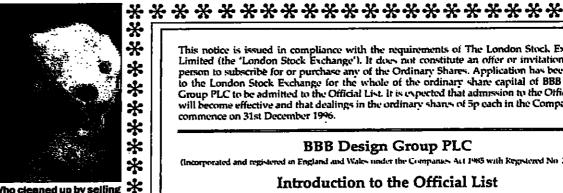
Granada Media Grasp Executive of the Noohvich иогиядон жылгы

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Why was Peter Robinson Who cleaned up by selling Sooty to the Japanese? ensis bne Ossg 9 South West Water

> 10 Town Dyc of PDFM 8 Brian Basham eq sepul ás o 🛠 neshectively. uəy ç

MONEK MONEK MONEK



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BBB Design Group PLC

Introduction to the Official List by Peel, Hunt & Company Limited

of the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of BBB Design Group PLC

Share Capital

Authorised Number 13,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 5p each 650,000

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W2 5A)

Peel, Hunt & Company Limited 62 Threadneedle Street London EC2R SHP A member of The Securities and

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the London Stark Exchange

Issued and fully paid

Number

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23rd December 1996

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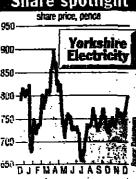
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Data Bank **FTSE 100** 4087.2 +9.6 **FTSE 250** +6.2 4454.6 **FTSE 350**

+4.4 2028.1 **SEAQ VOLUME** 553.3m shares, 33,769 bargains





Footsie climbing to a closing high, up 9.6 points to 4,087.2. It was, however, a typical pre-Christmas trading session with volume low and many offices content to operate with just a token workforce.

Still the undertone re-mained firm. With the first of the new year tips dribbling into the stock market and Nat West Securities taking a positive view, hopes are high that fur-

ther progress will be made over the holiday period. NatWest has emerged as NatWest has emerged as there is "a of money on the strong bulls. Strategists Bob sidelines ready to push Foot-semple and David McBain sie up to around 4,600 by the 1998 the target is 4,800.

They believe the cheer will emerge in the second six months and say: "The tactic for th. first half of 1997 will be to buy auto weakness for the sec-

Shares just managed to hang on to their festive cheer with Footsie climbing to a closing high, up 9.6 points to 4.087.2.

Shares, it is argued, are well supported by strong GDP growth which will feed through into a continued robust personal discontinuous continued robust personal disco formance on earnings and div-

"A tough fiscal and monetary stance by the new Labour gov-erament will bring inflation back below 3 per cent and provide a spur to the gilt market,"

It will not be an easy ride with shares likely to come under pressure in what could be Electric fails to hold off the might of the CE Electric bid, Yorkshire and Southern Electric will be the last survivors of a turbulent first six months. But institutions are cash rich and

the median forecast currently resting a little over 4,200. In the relaxed atmosphere the occasional takeover story gathered support.

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

off-shoot.

OGC International, an oil

services group riding at 251p in the spring, was the day's bid victim, receiving an approach

"which may or may not lead to an offer". Last week Clyde Pe-

troleum was the target of a hos-

joyed a modest surge, gaining 26p to 798.5p.

If, as seems likely, Northern the dozen regional electricity tile £432 companies which were priva-

tised six years ago. Yorkshire has been the subject of intense speculation in the past two years. Early this expect Footsic to end next year end". the past two years. Early this year at 4,600 points. And for The NatWest duo appear to year its shares soared to 898p be at the top of the range with with many convinced bids were on the table. But Yorkshire maintains it never received an approach. As Yorkshire shares sparked the other survivor was in a closed circuit, unchanged OGC jumped 41p to 116p at 160p, attracted a touch of and Cairn moved ahead 5.5p seasonal cheer, bubbling 17p to a 416.5p peak. British-Borneo rose 16.5p to 759p and

Lasmo 3p to 237p.

Little Emerald Energy added 0.5p to 3.25p after an- to be short of stock. nouncing the start of a seismic programme in Colombia. British Gas gained op to

deal - this time with Mobil. As part of the settlement, British Gas is handing some North Sea assets to Mobil.

tile £432m bid from Gulf Brake Bros, the conve-Halliburton, a US services group, has approached OGC through its Brown & Root The US group is involved with Cairn Energy in developing the big Sangu gas field in Bangladesh. Halliburton is meeting half

off-shoot did the damage.

Matthew Clark, the cider and wine group, gained 6p to The price held at 620p.

The price held at 620p. 262.5p as Bass was put forward as a possible bidder and Ma-iestic Wine, floated last month

higher to 254.5p.
Allied Domecq recovered
14.5p to 439.5p with market maker Lehman Brothers said

Lehman also declared a surprisingly high 13.5 per cent bolding in Acorn Computer, lit-227.5p. It has renegotiated another "take or pay" North Sea Hanover International, the hotel group, climbed 12p to 129.5p as Albert E Sharp's fund

management arm took its stake to 3.54 per cent.

Guinness Peat, the financial nience food group, was the day's big loser, off 180.5p to garage business Gowrings and 576p. Profits are likely to come attempted a bid, continues to deplet a test for Young & out at £24m against hopes of develop a taste for Young & £29m and last year's £27.1m. Co, the family-controlled Wandsworth brewery. It has lifted its interest in the non-vot-

> Caspian, which owns Leeds United, rose 4p to a peak of

Taking Stock

the new

David Abell, who sold the Suter mini conglomerate to Ascot Holdings in the summer, could have designs on Thomas Jourdan, the Corby

trouser press group. He has acquired a 2.8 per cent interest and family and friends account for a further 1.7 per cent. Jourdan, which returned to profit last year, rose 4p to 26.5p.

Eurovein is selling its main shot blasting business for nearly £13m. It will concentrate on its industrial

knives operation. The deal leaves the company with cash worth around 70p a share. With the Villiers engineering group sitting on 15.3 per cent and looking acquisitive. Eurovein may feel obliged to quickly locate a takeover target. Its shares jumped 21.5p to 76.5p; they were floated at 141p two

th. first half of 1997 will be to the occasional takeover story buy into weakness for the second-half run." the first half of 1997 will be to the occasional takeover story gathered support. yorkshire Electricity en- at 778.5p.	the development costs in exchange for a 25 per cent equi- ty interest in the field. 262.5p as Bass was put forward change for a 25 per cent equi- ty interest in the field. 262.5p as Bass was put forward change for a 25 per cent equi- as a possible bidder and Ma- jestic Wine, floated last month 44.5p. Caspian, which owns Leeds were floated at 141p two years ago.
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The new problem that is thousands of years old

And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed, and all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee out of the city of Nazareth into Judea unto the city of David which is called Bethlehem... Luke,

Who -

Had it not been for an effort by a supranational authority, concerned about the difficulties of collecting tax from economic migrants, Joseph and his pregnant wife would have been ole to stay in Nazareth, and the story of the Nativity would have been rather different.

At the weekend, Mr Jürgen Stark, a finance ministry state secretary in Germany, said that Bonn was planning a campaign against "tax havens" in the EU, singling out the UK. It seems that British tax rates are one of the reasons why investment bankers, including many Germans, operate from London instead of Frankfurt.

Germany is not proposing that Germans resident in London should have to return to their native cities to be taxed, though it would be a sight easier to hop on a plane back to Frankfurt than to trek down from Nazareth to Bethlehem, half a day's car ride even today. But Germany's concern is similar to that of Caesar Augustus. If you have a common currency zone with high levels of labour mobility it is hard to avoid inefficiencies in the tax system. Two millennia ago the problem was tracking people; now it is the multiplicity of different tax regimes. We can, to some extent, fix the old problem; but because the world is less unified, we have a problem that they did not have to tackle, the lack of a common

In the years ahead this is going to get worse. All high-tax countries are desperately concerned about economic miabout the loss of jobs to eastem Europe, partly a function

. . .



Hamish McRae

Companies can be a brass plate in Liechtenstein and operate

offshore, but the people who own them have to have a home. And they can be tracked

of lower wages, but more one of less onerous social security and tax payments. I was in Sweden last week, and it was pointed out that all the high-profile Swedish sports stars lived outside the country. But at the moment we are only seeing a tiny change, for only a relatively small group of people are free to choose their location. As electronic communications develop, and as an increasing proportion of the world's labour force works on-screen, the proportion of workers who are free to locate anywhere will rise. We already have an element of tax competition within the EU, seeking to attract new business investment with grants and tax breaks. Are we moving to a world where tax competition extends to individuals and becomes a major way in which countries compete?

Some people have gone

even further than this, and ticularly sympathetic to charges companies and people can lobounds of any national authority. Of course humans have to be physically located somewhere companies can be a compared to the other two brass plate in Liechtenstein zones America and East Asia. and have all their operations offshore, but the people who own them have to have a home. And they can be tracked. The

advance of electronics, which

brings us this freedom of location, also makes it easier for Caesar Augustus 10 find us. But the combination of mobility and electronics is likely to cut away government revenues over the next generation - it is the principal force which seems likely to cause the downsizing of government. To many this nay appear welcome, but there is the disturbing possibility that governments simply will not have the revenue necessary to perform their basic functions. This raises two obvious questions. What can governments do to protect revenue? And is there a bedrock of tax-ation which will not disappear, come what may?

On the first, the key element will be the degree of international co-operation that governments can develop. Within the EU there ought to be some room for holding tax rates within broad bands, but the scope will be more limited than people like Mr Stark would like. Quite aside from the obvious political difficulty of a country accepting a tax rate decided by voters in another, there is the practical difficulty that there are several places in western Enrope which are not members of the EU: not just Switzerland and Norway, but also places like the Channel Islands.

In any case the chief competition for the EU countries within the EU, but from outside it. Economic power is inevitably shifting to East Asia. It is very hard to see a government in China being par-

Interest Rates

started to ponder whether the from Europe that its taxation Internet creates a world where policies are unfair. Even if it were possible to co-ordinate EU taxation, that would not be enough. Indeed it might simply put the European timezone at a disadvantage

> So, while there may be grounds for some international co-operation on tax, it would be unwise to expect too much. An alternative way forward would be that adopted by the United States, which taxes its citizens wherever they live world-wide. In theory any country concerned about tax leakage because of its citizens moving abroad could think of doing that. But in practice it would be very difficult for oth-er countries, if only because the attractions of being a citizen of almost any other country are weaker. In the case of Germany there would be the further complication that nationality is by blood - by ancestry - rather

than by birth. The best protection of government revenues, surely, comes on the other side, the spending side. Countries with very bad public services are unattractive places for either people or businesses to locate.

In any case there is surely a bedrock of taxation which will remain. This includes property taxes; a reasonable level of sales taxes; fuel and power taxation; some (maybe quite modest) level of income tax. Even on pessimistic assumptions, a country ought to be able to raise taxation equivalent to, say, 25 per cent of GDP, at least for another generation. But as the demand for

skilled people rises and as these people are free to move around more and more, the downward pressure on taxation will continue. Expect more concern about "unfair" taxation, and increasing efforts to make people pay tax in their cities of their lineage, even if future tax authorities will not force people to go back there to pay it.

Maintenance problems drag Inspirations to £13m loss

Tom Stevenson City Editor

The holiday industry reporting season crash-landed yesterday as Inspirations reported a £13.2m loss for the year to September. The tour operator, Britain's fourth largest, used its results to hit back at speculation that its credit lines were being scrutinised by the Civil Aviation Authority and said it had no plans to sell its 97

AT Mays travel agencies.
The denial scotched a rumou that Carlson, the US travel group, was poised to buy the outlets which it already manages in order to inject much-needed funds into Inspirations' balance sheet. A company spokesman said that, with net cash of £42m,

Inspirations had no trouble complying with the CAA's bonding requirements which insist on credit lines being available to get holidaymakers home in the event of a corporate crash.

The troubled holiday company has been in a tailspin since maintenance problems with its Caledonian Airways subsidiary in the summer caused delays and disruption valued yesterday at £19.5m. Putting a figure on the damage finally drew a line under a disastrous three-month period for the company during which two profits warnings contributed to

a halving in its share price. Inspirations said it had struck a compensation deal with British Airways Engineering, the airfailed to deliver Inspirations' planes to an agreed timetable, causing disruption to the lour operator's summer schedule. BA will make a payment of £1.6m to Caledonian and subscribe to preference shares worth £4.4m

in Inspirations. BA said yesterday: "British Airways Engineering has ac-knowledged that there were occasions when engineering work had taken longer than anticipated but safety is paramount and neither Caledonian Airways nor British Airways would ever allow this safety to he compromised."

Inspirations shares closed yesterday 1p higher at 75.5p, above their recent low of 66.5p but well below the 152.5p

The heavy loss recorded last year compared with a profit of £7.7m in the 12 months to September 1995 and was struck from sharply higher sales of £403.2m (£356.1m). There was a loss per share of 27.7p (earnings of 18.4p) and no dividend is to be paid.

A spokesman said 1996 had got off to a good start and good trading had soon resumed after September's difficulties.

Inspirations' figures bring to an end a mixed reporting season for Britain's quoted holiday companies. Airtours profits took off with its share price but First Choice took the opportunity of appointing a new chief executive to slash its dividend by a quarter, despite reporting higher profits,

Lucas Varity director quits

The US stranglehold over Lu-cas Varity, the Anglo-American car components group, grew tighter yesterday after John Grant, its British finance di-

rector, quit with a payoff worth about £576,000. Mr Grant, who had been at Lucas for four years, is being replaced by Neil Arnold, who was chief financial officer at Varity for six years before being put in charge of corporate development when the two companies merged. Mr Arnold will not be on the board of Lucas Varity, meaning that the company's only executive director now is its chief executive, Victor Rice,

the former head of Varity. The group denied that Mr Grant had clashed with Mr Rice or that they had fallen out over group strategy, which involves shedding 3,000 workers and disposing of 13 subsidiaries, all of them former Lucas businesses, over the next two years. A spokesman said the board had decided to terminate Mr

Liffe Financial Futures



Gone: John Grant received a payoff worth £576,000

Grant's contract because it needed "someone who was more global in orientation and more experienced".

Mr Grant was on a two-year rolling contract and received a salary, including perks and pension entitlements, of £288,000 in the year to the end of July. The spokesman said his contract, which was terminated last Friday, would be met in full.

News of Mr Grant's departure sent shares in Lucas Varity 6p lower to 226.5p.

IN BRIEF

 British Gas said it would transfer stakes in some of its North Sea production and transportation assets to Mobil in exchange for new terms on high-priced supply contracts with the US oil and gas company. The UK gas supplier said two long-term supply contracts, which had forced it to buy gas above market rates. would be terminated.

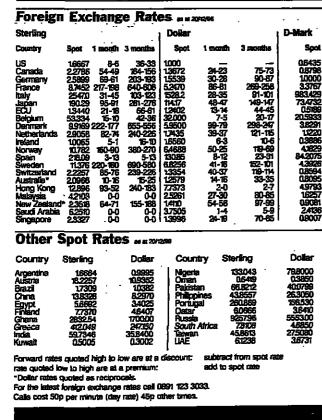
• Liffe, the London futures and options exchange, will set up its new trading floor and offices at a site in Spitalfields, in a deal guaranteed by the City Corporation. The exchange, which is growing quickly, had looked at six possible venues, one of which was at Canary Wharf, in the London Docklands area.

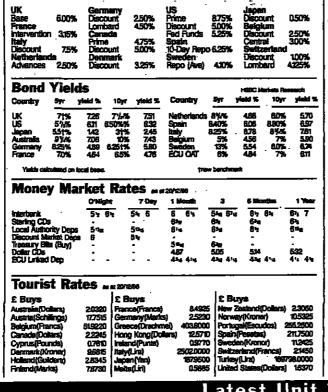
• Clyde Petroleum rejected Gulf Canada's £432m approach yesterday, saying: "This opportunistic offer gains no credibility from the highly selective statistics used by Gulf Canada. These statisties ignore the real value of Clyde, as Clyde management and its financial advisers will demonstrate to sharcholders.

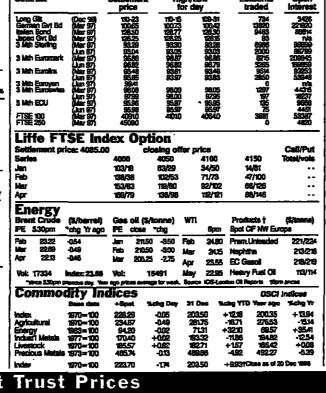
 Burnfield said yesterday it had rejected an informal approach from Fairey of a slightly higher all-paper offer because it represented only a small increase on the existing one-for-four terms and was contingent on an existing 135p-a-share cash offer lapsing. Burnfield shares closed 2p higher at 143.5p.

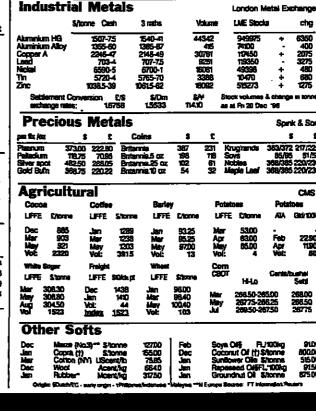
 Net retail sales of unit trusts reached £409m in November. more than 30 per cent up on the total reached 12 months ago. and the second highest on record, according to figures from the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds. Net sales of PEPs were £309m, up from £283m in October and £273m at the same time last year.

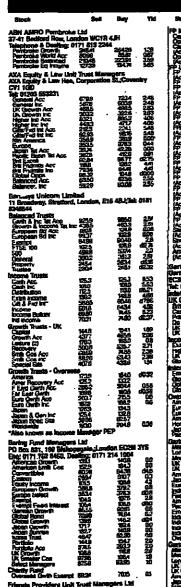
· Amersham International has bought an Italian radiopharmaceutical business from Sorin Biomedica in an £11m deal that completes its present acquisition plans in Europe. The Italian company, based in Turin, made £1.6m last year on sales of £13m and is the market leader in southern Europe.

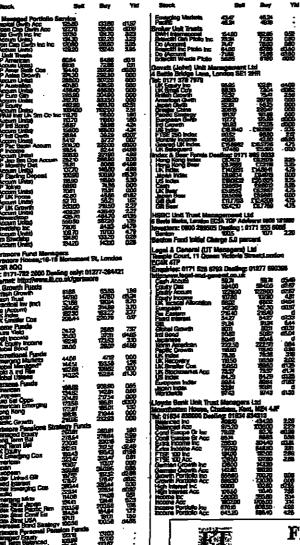










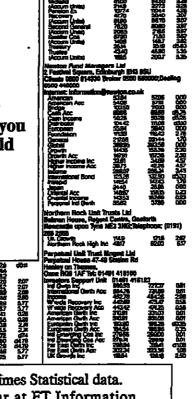




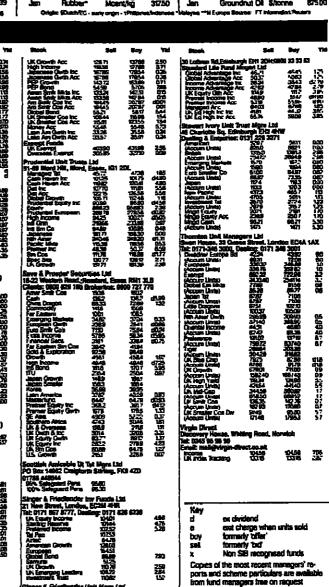
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RACING: Eleven Boxing Day cards but all eyes will be on the favourite for the King George VI Chase and his record-chasing rider

One Man to elevate Dunwoody

RICHARD EDMONDSON

When Thomas Richard Dunwoody MBE throws his leg over the hot favourite, One Man, before the main event at Kempton on Boxing Day, the win in this race remained in Kempton on Boxing Day, the leg will sport patches the colour Dunwoody's mind. That event, of Christmas pudding. If the 32year-old jockey wins the King George VI Chase he will create black marks elsewhere – on the leaves of the record book - as in one year. the first rider to win the race

If anything kept Dunwoody bouncing as Perfect Pal deposited his partner on Ascot's advantage that he now goes for turf on Saturday it must have a contest that delights in rebeen the thought that he will seldom go into a championship contest such as Thursday's with such bountcous prospects. The Irishman understands that his competitive career is unlikely to make it to the millenium and indeed, even that is an impossibly long-range target. "It could all be finished today, tomorrow or on Boxing Day," he said.
"You can never look too far

In some circles it had been portrayed that Dunwoody had chosen One Man for the King George in preference to the

lation), but the reality is that he has a verbal agreement with the former's connections to ride the grey all season. This bonding cannot have been difficult for the jockey if even the timest vesrescheduled to Sandown in January, gives his rider the chance to go into quiz literature as the only man to win the race twice

One Man was as devastating. at Esher last year as much as he was disappointing in the Gold Cup. It is to the eight-year-old's crowning its champions. Since 1973 there have been six horses who have won at least two King Georges, a feat that has not been achieved once in the Gold

Cup over the same period.

The greatest of them all, of course, was another of One Man's hue, Desert Orchid, who made six consecutive appearances in the King George, winning on four occasions. Dessie further proves that age has not wearied him when he parades on Thursday just a week before his 18th birthday.

Barton Bank, the winner in Irish horse Sound Man (no re- 1993, will also put in an ap-

pearance (still on a competitive level), but there will be no show from the 1994 victor, Algan, who was not among the four-strong contingent that set out from François Doumen's Lamorlaye yard in France for England yesterday morning. "It is entirely because of the ground," the trainer said. "It's a bloody shame because he is so well."

Two other horses (Sound Man and Oatis Regrets) dropped out at yesterday's for-

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Aardwolf (Kempton 1.10) NB: Chai-Yo (Kempton 1.40)

feit stage, leaving a maximum force of eight. However, the state of the Kempton going, and the state of one of Mr Mulligan's feet, means the field may eventually be whittled down to four and the smallest field since Burrough Hill Lad beat two opponents in 1984.

Mr Mulligan has sustained bruising after stepping on a stone. His foot is occupying a re-ceptacle normally reserved for champagne over the festive period, an ice-filled bucket. Couldnt Be Better and Trying Again young horse would have a job

are also likely to be withdrawn if the ground is on the fast side of good, while, even more disappointingly, there are doubts about the participation of the second favourite and Grand National winner, Rough Quest. forecast. The greatest peril to One Terry Casey, the gelding's trainer, will walk the course today to

Rough Quest was received so well after his win in a Folkestone novice hurdle last week that it came as a bit of a surprise that he was not borne into the winners' enclosure on a garlanded platform carried by a team of eunuchs. This, however, was not a performance that had either Gordon Richards, One Man's trainer, or Dunwoody, hurrying to the drinks cabinet in search of comfort, "I do see Rough Quest as the danger, but if One Man had been in that [Folkestone] race we would have expected him to win too

determine whether the 10-year-

and he wouldn't have started at 5-1 either," Durwoody said. If Rough Quest defects, many people's idea of the dan-ger will be Strong Promise, the Murphy's Gold Cup runner-up. However, a line through his recent Ascot victim, Major Bell, suggests Geoff Hubbard's erandstand.

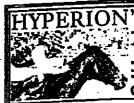
beating One Man's stablemate Unguided Missile, never mind the big horse himself. As the three-mile trip is also an unknown factor, it may be best to stick with Barton Bank for the

Man comes from another forecast, that of the weather. Kempton is held at the moment by the sort of central continental conditions more reminiscent of the Canadian prairies. The atmosphere is icicle cold and a slicing wind is tearing across Sunbury, where sub-zero temperatures are anticipated over the next few days. Last Boxing Day all 10 cards were claimed by the elements, but Peter Mc-Neile, the Kempton clerk of the course, was confident yesterday that the frost could be repelled. If racing does go ahead it will

be the last time that Kempton's unique Yuletide atmosphere is enjoyed in this particular backdrop. When the crowds returns to Kempton for Boxing Day 1997 it will be to a new £8.4m grandstand development, on which work will begin in February. Richard Dunwoody and One Man (2.15) are most like ly to be at the head of any grandstand finish to finish the old



Pick of the crop: One Man



KEMPTON LIC AARDWOLF beat more experienced horses over this trip at ndown last time and showed that he has the pace for this quicker course when previously vinning over two miles. See More ss, narrowly beaten by Dorans Pride last time, is the one to overcome, while Hatcham Boy and Solomon's Dancer might be better suited by softer going.

1.40: ALBEMINE, who is well suited by fast ground and a flat track, can overcome Chai-Yo.

2.15: If MR MULLIGAN can overcome the minor injury be suffered this week then he repre a good alternative to One Man, who is perhaps overrated. The se-Lad at Ascot in February, but has been let down by his jumping on his last two starts. A return to a right-handed track may be bene-ficial. Conversely, Rough Quest would be happier racing anticlockwise with case in the ground Strong Promise, who will appre ciate the going, cannot be ruled

2.45: POTTER'S BAY and Mis ter Drum are closely matched but the selection may cope best with

KEMPTON

ahead in this game."

12.40 Secret Spring 1.40 Albemine (nb)

HYPERION 2.45 Potter's Bay

White Hand course. Practically fat. Ban-in of 200yd.

■ Course is on A303 at Sunbury. (Bos link from Richmond Underground station.) Kempton Park railway station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club \$25, dundors (16 to 25-year-olds) \$16; Grandstand £16; Silver Ring £7. Accompanied children under-16 free. CAR PARK: Main area \$5; Silver Ring and centre of course free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: D Nicholson — 17 winners from 50 runners gives a success ratio of 28.5% and a loss to a £1 level stake of 50.07; M Pipe — 12 winners, 57 runners, 20.7%, +51.15; N Headersona — 12 winners, 73 runners, 16.4%, -54.40; N Twiston-Davies — 8 winners, 51 runners, 15.7%, -523.30. ■ LEADING JOCKETS: J Osborne — 27 winners, 111 tries, 24.3%, +524.18; R Denwoody — 29 winners, 104 rides, 19.3%, -531.89; A Magnire — 17 winners, 79 rides, 21.5%, -57.11; M A Picagerald — 17 winners, 30 rides, 18.9%, -51.89.

BLINEREED FUEST TIME: None. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DESTANCE BUNNERS: Solomon's Danner (1.10) & One Man (2.15) have been sen. 293 miles by G Richards from Greystoke, Cumbria.

12.40 GOOD JOB NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS B) £10,000 added

	111111	KARASH (NSA) (40) (0) (Mick Fletcher) M Pine 5 11 10
!	0-21	DANESCOLD (21) (D) (Circular Detributors Ltd) M Charmon 4 (1 5
	2	DESERT GREEN (FR) (21) (BF) (Mrs P Jubert) R Hannon 7 11, 5
ı		ROWNS FLUTTER (385) (R V Wagra) D Essarth 8 11 5 P Hol
ì		LEADING SPIRIT (Indura Reong Parines Two) C Wall 4 11 5
)	0	MANSUR (21) (Ed McGraft) N Henderson 4 11 5 4 Fitzger
		NOGAT FLARE (FR) (21) (Mrs Flora Goston) S Woodman 4 11 5 X Gas
ı		MOREDANICE PRINCE (28) (Prvis Gyrri) Miss Gay Kelleway 5 11 5
)		PALLADIUM BOY (20) (Palladium Ltd (Builders Merchantst) Mrs J Retter 6 15C Man
O		PROTON (21) (D) (Person War Racre) R Aleburat 6 11 5R Democratic
1		SANNARTINO (K Abdullah) D Nicholson 4 11 5
2	2-12	SECRET SPRING (FTG (28) (D) (BF) (M K George) P Hedger 4 11 5
3		MOOR HALL LADY (24) (R S Brookhouse) N Babbage 5 11 0
	-	49

SANMARTINO, the 1995 Ebor viceor, has hed his intended hurding debut delayed three times by the weather and, although he will not find it easy with Kallash, Proton and Danegold among his mails, the son of Salse can still start his new career successfully. Sammarton, the control of Salse can still start his new career successfully. Sammarton, the Child Mail All Salse can still be successfully. Abdullan, is sure to know his new job and will not lack for fitness. Kallash is undefi Abdulan, is sure to know his new job and will not lack for fitness. Kallash is undefeated after seven races — four bumpers (one last season) and three hurdle races — most recently making all to slam Herbert Lodge seven lengths at Chaltenham. The five-year-old, who represents Marinn Pipe's stable in preference to two others, might not have finished improving yet and rates the chief threat. Proton, another formmer useful Fist racer, slammed Desert Green (who went off favourite) nine lengths when both made their debuts at Windsor and they meet on identical terms. Danegold justified favouritism at Windsor on only his second outing this term and third in all and is enother likely to get better. Leveling Spirit, who makes his hurdling bow, was a decent type on the Ret, scoring twice this year, the latest under 9st 12to in a field of 18 here in September.

1.10 PERTEMPS RECRUITMENT FELTHAM NOVICE CHASE (CLASS A) (Grade 1) £35,000 3m Penalty Value £22,950

1-11300 DUEDCAH (FR) (25) (Ms Stela Elkelm) F Doumen (F) 5 11 7... /0/-1211 FRIC THYNE (26) (CD) (Peter Wegand) Mm A Penet 7 11 7... /0/F12-1 HATCHAM BOY (27) (D) (Robert Benton) D Nicholson 6 11 7.... ESS (25) (P K Barber & J A Yeighlay) P Nicholls 6 11 7....... A P McCo

BETTING: 6-4 See More Business, 7-2 Austrolf, 6-1 Fine Three, 7-1 Buckhouse Boy, 8-1 Hetches

FORM GUIDE

Paul Nicholls, who landed this in 1933 with See More Indians, should be on the mark again, this time with SEE MORE BUSINESS. Winner of both completed starts in point-to-points, the sk-year-old won all three of his novce hundles lest season and want in first time up over the sk-year-old won all three of his nonce hundles last season and went in first time up over fences when defeating Wee Windy eight lengths at Cheostow, where Buckhouse Boy (same terms) was 11 lengths further away last of three. My selection ran a blinder when besten a length by Dorans Pride at Fernyhouse – third-placed Executive Options was a distance back – and will take some beating here. Buckhouse Boy best Foodbrider Star? 25 lengths at Newhoury next time but fell when leading in Foodbrider Star? area at Lingdist. Anardwolf has a 100 per cera record after two outings this term, defeating Amancio 19 lengths over two miles at Sandown and inching out Major Summit in an extended three-miller on the same track. He looks the right one for forecast backers. Solomon's Danner, who sports the One Man colours of John Hale, was the epitome of consistency over timber last term and has taken kindly to the larger obstacles, winning his first two chases at Carlisle and Newcastle and firsthing a two-andi-e-half-length second to the odds-on Sparley Gayle on a return to the latter course. This is a new timp for him but he should last it out on this easy track. Fine Thype has landed three of his four chases (including a dead-heat with Berude Not To at Kempton) and was runner-up to Call Equiname at Worcester in the other but has more on his plate this time, as does Habitchiaus Boy, who made a winning fending bow at Newbury.

1	.40	NETWORK PERSONNEL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £10,000 2m Penalty Value £6,827
1	1005-30	THINKING TWICE (USA) (27) (D) (Ed McGrath) N Handerson 7 11 10
2	21-1121	CHRIL-YO (13) (D) (Nick Viney) J Okt 6 10 12 G Upton
3	523P-52	ALBENDNE (USA) (16) (D) (Mrs J Cecil) Mrs J Cecil 7 10 10T Kent
4	2F21P-3	ENTERBANCIC (27) (D) (The Will To Win Partnershot J Fox 6 to 0S Fox
5	211	YET AGAIN (1.4) (A P Galfre) Miss G Kellenby 4 10 0
6		PYRRENC DANCE (21) (TW King M Haynes 6 10 0
_		- 6 declared -
45-4	نظمت در در	er 17st True handren uniders instamade Oct 13th Vet Seek Oct 16th Purtie Donne 7st Filh

FURM GUIDE

CHAI-YO is much improved this session and can make it four wins out of five despite racing off a 15th higher mark then when garring his first success of the season at Haydock last month. Jim Old's charge later won at Anthree and Chebenham, his only reverse being when finding Master Morose eight lengths too good at Newtony on his perutitimate start when intermegic firsthed a length and threequarters adult in third and Thinking Twice was miles bethind in ninth. Chai-Yo should again have the measure of that pair who meet him on 7th and 11th better terms, respectively. Albemilles looks the men danger, Julie Coof's numer had the third 15th length a wow when going under three parts of a length to Most Equal at Huntingdon on only his second outing of the season, and likely to improve. Yet Again, who has a preferred engagement at Wolverhampton, has been successful in the last two of his

BETTME: 11-10 Chai-Yo, 7-2 Athenine, 4-1 Yet Again, 7-1 Intermagic, 8-1 Thinking Twice, 33-1 Pyrobic

2.15 PERTEMPS KING GEORGE VI CHASE (CLASS A) 4420-25 BARTON BANK (40) (CD) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 10 11 10...

21121-6 NATINEN LAD (8) [) Steam Mrs J Pilmen 7 11 10... F71116-1 ONE MAN (54) (D) () Hales [6] Richards 8 11 10... 27121-1 ROUGH ((NEST 59) (20) (A 74 Materia T Campy 10 11 10... 121121 STROMG PROMISE (33) (G) Hubbard G Hubbard 5 11 10... 8 1P11-12 TRYING AGAIN (19) (C) (W H Done) D Gendolfo 8 11 10.

BETTING: 4-7 One Man, 4-1 Rough Quest, 6-1 Strong Promise, 10-1 Berton Sunk, 16-1 Trying Again, 20-1 Mr Mulligum, 33-1 Maidthen Led. 50-1 Couldet Be Better 1996 (run at Sandown, 6 Jan): Orn Man 8 11 10 R Durwoody 11-4 (G Richards) 11 mn

There have been several dual winners of this event, which dates back to 1937, and ONE MAN looks policed to follow up last season's victory when the race was staged at Sandown. Gordon Richards's grey won his first two starts test season, at Ayr and Haydock and was completing a hat-trick when winning this event by 14 lengths from Monsieur Le Cure. One than taked to show his real form when two orther and a 34-length sixth to imposel Call in the Gold Cup, dropping out quickly between the last two fences but looked as good as ever when starming Barkone Bearls seven lengths at Haydock on his return and they meet on the same terms. Bartons Bank, whose of this in 1993 and clear only to blunder and unseat at the last in 1994, was behind when pulled up before two out test term. Grand National hero Rough Quest, who took a maxiem hundle at Folkastone despite being thought fliely to need the run, had Couldast Be Better 19 lengths behind in third when a four-length second in the Gold Cup but One Man should turn around Cheltenham running with both. Rough Quest may provide most density. Hough Strong Promise, who has won four of his six cheeses — inprovide most danger, though. Streng Promises, who has won four of his six chases — in-cluding the First Bank Gold Cup at Accot a week after spling narrowly behind Challenger Du Luc in the Murphy's Gold Cup at Chellenham — tackles three miles for the first time. The six-year-old should get the distance on this steep course and, whist he may not be good enough Loc in the Murphy's Good Lap at Grasser was a server and whilst he may not be good at o cope with One Man and Rough Quest at levels at this stage of his career, can take nor honours. Nahithen Lad, whose four victories in 1995-96 included the Sun Alliance (finished well beaten over hundles at Bangor on his responsarance but will be shaper run. Mr Malifegas, one of last season's leading lights among the novice disappointed fourth to Belmont Ring at Chepstow. But he wall strip fitter now and, on Bit more flavo terms, can reverse the form with Thylag Again (prefers soft going), who finished at However, neither of them appear good enough here.

Selection: ONI

2.45 NETWORK DESIGN WAY WARD LAD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS B) £15,000 2m 4f 110yds Pen Vel £10,309

- 4 declared -BETTING: 5-4 Potter's Bay, 9-4 Mister Orem, 4-1 Greenback, 7-1 Subline Fellow FORM GUIDE

Twice a hurdles scorer in 1995-96, POTTER'S BAY is unbesten after three runs over fence and is set to extend the sequence to four. David Nickolson's runner hasn't besten a gree deal at Huntingdon (twice) and Sandown, where he accounted for solitary rivel Triple Witch OBBI BIT INTRINGUOD (MINES) BIND SOFTIAMEN), WHIRE I BE VERY SERVEN, S can see or masser brusts and streetspace, wester brush mas amoent unser, or in sour orses, finishing second to Lively Knight at Hunthington in the other and, being a front-numer well be well at home on this track. Greenback, who won eight huntle races in 1994-95, misses last season. He is on a hat-trick but will find this much tougher then when when when left at Tauriton and Folkestone, as will subfisher Fellow then when he scored at Hereford and Southweither was unplaced at Bangor in between.

Selection: POTTER'S BAI

3.15 PERTEMPS CRACK CLUB HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 8) £10,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £6,912

2/12223 INYTION'S CHOICE (26) (BF) (Gurton Mytan) D Nicholson 5 11 10... 33-2124 LANSDOWNE (25) (D) (R F Denmend) P Nichols 8 11 7.... 11604 CASTLE COUNTRIES LES (US) HE F DERIMENS P RECIONS 8 11 7.

11604 CASTLE COUNTRIES LES (12) (C) (Sady Mary Marriand) Lady Hisrass 9 11 7.

1418-35 ULURU (12) (D) (P) Morgani C Montock 8 10 11.

30-5312 TMI (12) (C) (P) (C) (P C Cach) Jenkers 6 10 8. 9 2/504/5- ENLING COURT (404) (R S Brookhouse) N Battage 7 10 0 - 9 decis

Adhmun weight 10st. The handisp weight Eding Court St 10.
RETHIN: 11-4 Blyton's Choice, 4-1 Landowne, 5-1 Tim, 6-1 Nick The Beak, 7-1 Castle Court 8-1 Ulara, Columny Boy, 12-1 others

Descrite too wealth, MYTTUN'S CHOICE, a consistent type, can gain a well deserved return to the consistent type. Despite top weight, IMYTTON'S CHOICE, a consistent type, can gain a well deserved return to winning form after three seconds and a thret since his successful respectance at Chepsow in October. He was besten only a length and a quarter and a length by Balanak and Karshi (winner since) at Warwick — Castle Couragisous some way back in severalt — and should last out the tru which he tackles for the first time. Lanadowner has also been running well and won over slightly further at Newtony in October in between seconds to imperial Vintage (over fences) at Newton Abbot on his return and behind Gysert at Wincariton while he was fourth to General Tonic on a return to Chepstow lest time. Colorany Boy, unplaced to Top Javalin at Newton Abbot last time, earlier got home by half a length from Time at Sandown but the second should reverse that running on 3th better terms.

Selection: MYTTON'S CHOICE

1908 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 1 6 of the Brookles 4 2 2 7 1 1 3 1 3 U 152 251 12 46 94 101 1-1 92 151 114 Profit or look to 21 states Favourities 50.58. Second Favourities 56.25 up of whomes placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in last race: 56% er. Desert Order 1-2 (1998) e series 10.0500 25-1 (1987). (1991 & 1992). Alga p josking: R. Duniscotty (3): Desert Grahid (1989 & 1990), One Man (1995)

KING GEORGE VI CHASE - 10-YEAR-TALE

RACINGS FUTURES MARKET

Bookmakers' ante-post lists are ton Bank is a top-priced 14-1 racing's futures market. Readers can catch up with the latest . Ladbrokes go 9-1. developments - best prices are in bold - in this sphere with The Chase: Moorcroft Boy is 25-1 Independent's Thesday service. (William Hill) - Coral go 14-1. King George VI Chase: Bar-

Horse (Trainer)

ne Mas (G Richards) longs Quest (T Casey)

Strong Promise (G Hubbard)

arton Bank (D Nicholson) ir Mudligan (Noel T Chance)

Trying Aguin (D Gandolfo)

Couldnt Be Better (C Brooks)

with the Tote - William Hill and Welsh National Handicap

King George VI Chase (3m)

50-1

50-1

			<u> </u>	
Welsh National Handi	icap (Chase (3r	n 5f 110)yds)
Horse (Trainer/weight)	Coral	William Kill	Ladbrokes	Tote
Beimout King (P Nicholis/11st6ib)	7-2	7-2	7.2	4-1
Fellow Countryman (K Bailey/10stGlb	9-2	9-2	9-2	9-2
Parsons Boy (G Richards/10st8b)	6-1	7-1	6-1	7-1
Greentil Tare Away (P Hobbs/11st)	8-1	6-1	6-1	7-1
St Mellion February (D Nicholson/11st1	<u>b) 6-1</u>	6-1	7-1	8-1
Full Of Oats (Miss H Knight/10st)	9-1	8-1	7-1	<u> </u>
Sister Stephenie (G McCourt/10st4k) 12-1	14-1	16-1	14-1
Dekyas Boy (N Twiston-Davies/10st3t) 20-1,	16-1	16-1	14-1
Evangelica (M Pipe/10st6b)	16-1	20-1	14-1	16-1
Grange Brake (N Twiston-Dawes/10st6)	20-1	25-1	20-1	25-1
Have To Think (P Nicholls/10st11lb)	<u> 25-1</u>	25-1	20-1	25-1
Killeshin (H J Manners/11st)	<u> 16-1</u>	25-1	25-1	20-1
Moorcroft Boy (D Nicholson/1,1st?lb)	14-1	25-1	20-1	25-1
Yorkshire Gale (J Giffort/11st8lb) d	loubeful	doubtful	25-1	doubtful
Medahim (Mrs J Primary10st9tb)	25-1	33-1	33-1	25-1
Mazzaro (W Turnes/10s(6lb)	20-1	33-1	25-1	25-1
Spullington (J Gifford/9st9(b)	<u> 33-1</u>	33-1_	33-1	25-1
A N C Express (J King/9st5b)	<u>50-1</u>	50-1	40-1	50-1
Kilcolgan (Mrs. J Goodlellow/Bst13b)	66-1		<u>6</u> 6- <u>1</u>	66-1
Turning Trix (D Nicholson/10s(8th) d	oubtful_	doubtfut	qorququi	doubtful

33-1

MARKET RASEN

12.30 Chorus Line 1.00 Oakbury 1.35 Rosencrantz 2.05 My House 2.35 Mister Trick 3.05 Denham Hill 3.35 Brambles Way GOING: Good, Good to Soft on Chase course in straight.

GOING: Goad, Good to Soft on Chase course in straight.

I Right-hand, sharp, including circuit. Num-in of one furiong.

I course is east of sens on AGSI. Market Resent station (Lincoln-Granelw line) Im. ADMISSION: Cub S12: Tattersuits SS (OAPs who are members of course's labilities (Tub S12: Tattersuits SS (OAPs who are members of course's labilities (Tub S1): Siber Ring SS (Jability OAPS SE JAC CAR PARKET pictus areas S2, rest free.

BLINKERED FURST TRUE: Lord Vick (2.35).

WINNERS IN LANT SEVEN DATE: None
(LONG DESTANCE RUNNERS: Tread The Boards (1.00), Out Ranking (1.37) & Banntown Bill (2.05) have been sent 250 miles (5.07) for from Ne bolasdapae, Decon.

12.30 EBF NOVICE CHASE QUALIFIER (CLASS D) £5,500 added mares 2m 1f 110yds

- 5 declared - 20 L2 - 20 Mg Black, 8-1 Old Betsy, 25-1 Printitive Penny 1.00 LAND G. COOK SELLING H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,100 added 2m 1f 110yds

014173 VINSTER'S MADONI (17) (0) J Nicale 5 12 0 J A Nichrity V 7.14 P 116340 THE BOARDS (19) (8P) M Ppe 5 11 10 JB Moore (7) F-55244 SEA 600 (801 M CHARMS 5 11 8 W Worthington 5 11 8 W WORTHINGTON 1 TOURSTON LADY (15) J Whaton 4 11 1 P Pieren

06300-2 WEXTNER ALERT (20) (20) Y. Morgen 5 11 0 _____A S Smith 023-049 SHAFBROOR (7) biss I. Scriet 4 10 13 _____F Lenby (3) 06070-P BERNANNA MILLS (27) (9) M Cropmen 5 30 11 __Rose Berry (7) 511-6403 OARBERY (13) Most I. Scriet 4 10 7 ______ Denok Byroe 00-5 BOLD TOP (13) B Portnell 4 10 6 _____ B Gretten (7) Y DARMO RYDE (20) J Smith 5 10 0 Y Smith WOODLANDS ENERGY (6) P Prochard 5 10 0 R Bellandy - 12 declared -Minimum weight: 10sz. True hand

1.35 ROSELAND GROUP HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £6,500 added 2m 3f 110yds (CLASS D) £6,500 added 2m 3f 110yds

0662* JINGLE 104E* (1,333 M Morgan 10 12 0 ... J A MicCardby
112411 010* RAMENIA (FR) (14) (F) M FD; 4 11 12 ... B Moore (7)
1130.5 SLAMMEREN (16) K MOrgan 5 11 10 ... J A S Smith
2133.02 IMPPANOUR (153) (13) C Marm 4 11 6 ... J Margan (3) 8

41,3232 IMPPANOUR (153) (13) C Marm 4 11 6 ... J Margan (3) 8

42,3232 LORD MICHARROUGH (10) (D) J Neade 6 11 4 ... M Breasan

01-112 ROSENCHMOZ (28) (E) Miss V Wilsons 4 11 2 ... J Mingan

033306 DMM, MAMEE (10) J FCCEred 9 11 0 ... W Deven

111409 CAN CAN CHARLE (288) (C) J Pearce 6 10 13 ... V Smith

21P-442 BMITSA (22) M Harmond 4 10 13 ... R Gardby

51P-5P STAR OF DAVID (80) (CD) Miss A Errbucous 8 10 11 ... J Rose

2025-3 SUDDEN SPM (8) (EF) J North 6 10 8 ... R Gardby

1223-15 WOURS RAMINER (289) (Or) R Upson 4 10 0 ... Devet Markey

223-15 YOURS RAMICAL (58) JOHN R Upson 4 10 0 ... D Morris

2020-4 TRESDAR'S COMET (200) (C) J L Harms 9 10 0 ... Gay Lowie (3)

20504-0 TRESTAN'S COMET (200) (C) J L Hams 9 10 C ... Guy Lewis (3) - 15 declared -Minimum weight: 10st. True handstap weights: Young Radical 9st 12th, Trus-ISFI SECTION: 11-4 Out Ranking, 4-1 Rippencer, 6-1 Resenceantz, 10-1 Refix-sa, Dual Image, 12-1 Lord McMarrough, Sudden Spin, 14-1 others 2.05 LINCOLNSHIRE NATIONAL H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £15,000 added 4m 1f

4 35P/1FP- DON'T LIGHT UP (247) Miss V Williams 10 11 2.... — 12 december — Sz. True handcap weight: Woodlands Energy Set 30: or's Maxiam, 9-2 Sen God, 5-1 Treed The Boards, To other Ment, 8-1 Degort Strand, 10-1 others

R Bellany B

-13 declared
Manimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Barntown Bill 9st 5ts. Whodlands Gentier 7st 5ts.

BETTREE: 9-4 Seven Towers, 8-1 bry House, 7-1 Ubs Val, Clearch Law, 8-1

Andre Lavel, 10-1 Diamond Fort, 12-1 others

2.35 BRUCE AND JOE CARR NOVICE HCAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 1f 2.-350 CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 1f

1 5426-24 RINDOM HARREST (30) (8F) Mrs M Reveloy 7 11 10 JP Novas

2 U272-43 PERAL'S CHOICE (10) J McConvotre 8 11 4 ... D J MoChat

4 P5766-1 MAUVER O'SMANY (23) W "Arringtom 7 11 12 ... M Smith

4 P5766-1 MAUVERT MAJOR (23) P Chestrong 7 11 1 ... A S Smith

5 283-3 BASSENHAMLY (30) Mrs P Sy 6 11 0 ... R Newtow

4 C29-2 MANICA (15) M DOOS 6 10 11 ... A S Smith

6 C29-3 MANICA (15) M DOOS 6 10 11 ... A S Smith

7 C29-3 MANICA (15) M DOOS 6 10 11 ... A S Smith

9 2403-1 MSSER TRICK (16) L Lungs 6 10 9 ... J A McCarthy

10 QC51-44 MONESAMA (24) M HARMON (7 10 10 3 ... A Smith

11 37P ROYAL PARS (16) Mrs S Smith 8 10 6 ... M Breanan

12 P2237-4 MONESAMA (24) M HARMON (7 10 3 ... Mass V Heigh

14 0000-5 MOCSA SOURC (15) L Lungs 6 10 2 ... Denk Byrne

15 5440-5 TARGET LINE (15) Mrs S Smith 8 10 2 ... R Withdoon (7)

16 P734 LORD VICK (394) Mrs A Errbrick 7 10 0 ... J Ryen B

17 42-4623 RECORD LOVER (11) M Chapters 6 10 0 ... W Worthington

-17 declared
BETTING 4-1 Random Harvest, 5-1 Majority Major, 8-1 Royal Parks, Basses
Height, 10-1 Pears's Choice, Mistar Trick, Montenan, 12-1 others

3.05 SANDILANDS HOLIDAYS MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Y ACERBIS DULOS (7S1) M Croman 5 11 5 M Worthington
APPEL SEVENTH (27) J Noville 5 11 5 J Fyan
BURN OUT (249) Peacre 4 11 5 J Fyan
CAST OF THOUSAINDS (24) C Egento 5 11 5 J A McCartley
DERMAN HELL (24) C Marco 5 11 5 J I Magne (3) ___ & S**cal**ite - 16 declared BETTING: 9-4 Burn Out, 9-1 Fayetin County, Denhum HE, 8-1 Cast Of Thou-sands, Halta Max, 10-1 Stored Risk, Jolicator, 12-1 others

3.35 CHRISTMAS NOVICE CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,200 added 2m 1f 110yds

- 14 deciared -BETTING: 6-4 Brambles Way, 9-2 Ath Cheesnalths, 6-1 Game Drive, 8-1 Gleavelly, Acadie Alica, Past Maeter, 14-1 First Gold, 16-1 others

	- Hay to quotie!	Pie Guus, pie	oces 1, 2, 3, 4 (Ch	epstow, Fnday	
D	OUBLE	ΕN	GAGEN	ENTS	S
The following hor	ses have been du	ibly declared	HORSE	1st per	21
ond professings	They will only run meeting if the firs	at their sec-	Langdowne	3.15 Kemp	1.45
is abandoned.		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Majorky Major	2.35 M Rm.	12
HORSE	1st prof	2nd pref	Malta Man	3.05 M Ras	25
Akmepa	3.20 Wine	2.35 Hera	Maceld	12.45 Weth	25
Andro Lavel	2.05 M Ras	1.15 Was	Mister Dram	2.45 Kerno	12.30
Ballyline	1.00 Walr	125 Au	Monday Club	2.50 Was	2,30
Cantons Frater	1.30 Hunt	2.35 N Abb	Noosa Sound	2.35 M Res	1.10
Chorus Line	12.30 M Res.	1.15 Weth	Northern Star	3.05 M Res	2.00
Coleanny Boy	3.15 Kemp	1.45 Winc	Pallacitan Boy	3.20 Wine	12.40
Condition Challe		200 Walv	Pearl's Choice	2.00 Newt	
Danbers HE	3.05 M Res.	1.05 Here	Dont-		

Ballyline	1.00 Wah	1.25 Agr	Monday Club	2.50 Who	2,30 Hom
Contorio Frator	1.30 Hunt	2.35 N A)力	Noosa Sound	2.35 M Res	1.10 Sed
Chorus Line	12.30 M Res	1.15 Weth	Northern Star	3.05 M Res	2.00 Hun
Colenny Boy	3.15 Kerap	1.45 Winc	Pallacitum Bov	3.20 Wire	12.40 Kemp
Combinet Challent	2.45 Wesh	200 Walv	Pead's Choice	2.00 Newt	
Denbers HE	3.05 M Res	1.05 Here	Peetswood	3.15 Kemp	
Duelimage	3.10 Sedg	1.35 M Res	Refitta		
Florans Publis	3.20 Wine 1	12.40 Kemp		1.45 Weth	1,35 M RM
Gertenchaves	3.35 M Res		Sheaghi Ann	3.05 M Ras	3.00 Woh
Genely		3.35 M Ras	Sid Path	12.40 Sedg	3.15 Web
Hengover		2.00 New	Stolley Page		3.20 Who
Houghton		200 Wat	Sudden Spin	1.95 M Ras	
Howque River		2.35 Here	The Shy Packe		12.30 Hun
Kamilgee	12.30 Hart	1.30 Wuly	Torch Vest	3.15 Wells	2.90 Wbs
King's Shilling	1.00 Wolv	3.05 Here	Tribune	12.40 Sed2	
Sign Section	2.10 Sedg	235 M Ras	Triplan's Cornet		1.35 M Rad
Korbell		230 Water	Yet.Again		1.40 Keng
	D A O				

HEREFORD

LOS Tristram's Image 1.35 Dragonmist 2.05 Speedwell Prince 2.35 The Brewer 3.05 Ardent Love 3.35 Swan Street

GOING: Gond.

| Eight-hand course with Stillyd run-in.
| Unasses with City on A.W. Hereford station Int. ADMISSION: Clair S.) 2. Tattorealls Sil; Course enclosure St. CAR PARKE Fre-BLINEREED FIRST TRUE: Purbeck Caratier (205), Nordic Breez USA: Country Lover 1850, 1163, High Dualeds (visor, 2.05), WENNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Captain Stockford (2.07) with a Hericard on Friday.

LING-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Quiet Mistress [1,5] has been sent
[19] make by W Bethell from Arnold, Humbersade.

1.05 GOOSE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,300 added 2m 3f 110yds

AUDOF 4 ARBOSO (36) J Meedham 8 10 7 POSPP LILLY THE FRLLY (8) Mrs B Warng 5 10 7 PM McLoughin 30-0 LOVE THE BLUES (82) (89) D Nicholson 4 10 7Mr R Thomas

- 16 declared -BETIME: 7-2 Country Lover, 6-1 Love The Bloos, Tristmu's Image, 7-1 Metatock Maggie, 8-1 Fine Sir, 9-1 Dunham HE, 10-1 others 135 MINCE PIE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £3,000 added 3m 2f

2.05 PLUM PUDDING NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m

5 14314 DECTRORE (Fig. 8) N POS 5 11 5 5-14314 DECTRORE (Fig. 8) N POS 5 11 5 5-P2PP1 CAPTARI STOCKFORD (6) (CD) P Wagnerin 9 11 5.

-9 declared -BETTENG: 9-4 Speedwell Prince, 4-1 Kadastrof, 9-2 Decyborg, 5-1 Captain Stockford, 7-1 Arabian Bold, Mao's Cross, 18-1 others

2.35 BLANDFORD BETTING NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500 added 2m 1f

SETTING: 5-1 Howgan River, 11-2 Almana, 7-1 Country Micetrel, Mr Pop pletgo, 9-1 Henris Janine, Saowshill Sheket, 12-1 others 3.05 TOTE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 3m 1f 110yds

Minimum weight: 10st. True n=15 declared Minimum weight: 10st. True n=redictor weight: Absolutom 9sr 12to.
BETTRIC: 5-1 Andeet Love, 11-2 Logs Remnigen, 6-1 Certainen, 7-1 Junit
One Canaletto, 8-1 The Whole Hog, Cool Character, 12-1 others

3.35 HUGHES CATERERS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £4,500 added 2m 3f 110yds

(CLASS F) £4,500 added 2m 3f 110yds
453 132 NOROIC BREEZE (SO) BRJ M Poe 41 12 ______ Debts B
213-492 BANSDERS (43) BRJ M Poe 41 12 _____ Debts B
233-492 BANSDERS (43) BRJ M Poe 51 13 _____ J Power (7)
40-514, ALLON (27) DJ B Lieneljn 5 11 3 ____ J Power (7)
40-514, ALLON (27) DJ B Lieneljn 5 11 3 ____ J Power (7)
40-514, ALLON (27) DJ B Lieneljn 5 11 3 ____ J Power (7)
40-514, ALLON (27) DJ B Lieneljn 5 11 0 ____ J Burnseljn
65-525 SWM STREET (42) (14) C Mann 5 10 7 ____ J Megice (3)
1 2557 (22) T Comma 4 10 4 ____ J Review
055454 VISCOUNT TULLY (13) C Locken 11 10 2 ___ Mics S Lecken
2502(3) BRIGHT SINPHIRE (S) D Burtlet 10 10 ____ J Burnsell V
150336 BUTTS SILVAN (48) B Poe 7 10 0 ____ J Burnsell V
003450 ALVALIAR (USA) (38) J Parits B 10 0 ____ J J Burnsell V
- 1.1 doctored -___ J Audier Set 7 10.

Michael: 10st. Bright Sepphine Set 13b, Bany's Island Set 11b, Auster Set 7b. BETTING: 7-2 Allow, 4-1 Romadess, 5-1 Nortic Breeze, 6-1 Sama Street, 7-1 Zasti, 8-1 Flour De Lai, 12-1 others

A CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF T

RACING RESULTS LUDLOW 4 cm. 15, y. (R Lee), Total; £1.30, DF: £3.00. CSF; £4.26, Non Runner: Who is Equipame. USF: £4.26, Non Rumer: Who is Equiname. 3.00: 1. TOO SHARP (J F Titley) 15-8 fav. 2. Corrector 20-1: 2

LUDLOW

1.00: 1. SLEEPTITE () Power) 3-1 [av; 2. Lovelant k 33-1: 3. Bright Sepphire 9-1. 16 stan. 4, 11/2. (W G M Turner), Totas: £3.80: £1.10, £6.90, £2.40, £2.30. Dust Forecast: £95.30. CSF: £2.83. Titos: £7.93. Titos: £7.93. Titos: £3.80: 1. To SHARP UF Titley) 15-8 [av 2. Corrarder 20-1: 3. Sphuning Steel 5: 52.50. CSF: £2.70, £1.20, £8.00. DF: £1.41.6 [das: 1.5 va. 1.4 va. 2. [das: h Kngrlz, Warding] 1. Str. 1. Act of Parti James II (C ODwyer) 9-4: 2. God Speed You 8-13 fav; 3. Harristown Lady 10-1. 6 ran., 13, 30. (K Balley). Totas: £3.30: £2.90, £1.00. DF: £2.00. CSF: £2.94. Titoss: £6.87. Non Rumers: Imperial Wintage, Rectory Cerden.

2.00: 1. WARD FOR ADVENTURE (8 Fonton) 9-4: 2. Galastesori Jame 11-4: 3. Dreleast 14-1.8 ran. 11-10 fav Luca Fore (fell). 10. ½. (Mess H Knight). Totas: £3.00: £1.10. £2.10. Dust Forecast: 15-20. CSF: £9.40. Tito: £1.30. DF: £3.00. Pizespet: £38.90. Quadpot: £1.5. 70. Place 6: £16.50. Place 6: £6.56. 2. Corrarder 20-1: 3. Spinning Steel 10.
1. G ram. 1½, 20. (Mass H Knight, Wartings).
Totac £2.70: £1.20, £8.00. DF: £14.10. CSF: £26.75. Tricast: £262.27. NRs: Blazer Morniere. Three Philosophers. 2.30: 1 URITMAYE SMOOTHIE (A P Mc-Coyl 5-4 |t fay; 2, Jostopa's Vision 6-1; 3. Namendano 16-1. 9 ran. 5-4 |t fay Sounds Live Fin (4th), 14; 2, (M Pps, Wellingson). Toke: £2.70; £1.50, £1.20, £2.50. DF: £7.10. CSF: £9.40. Troi: £13.50. NRs: Barton Scarne, Crimson King, Dark Orthard, Rebued Lad, Shropshire Gale, Stormyfatnweather.

Sparking Buck.
2.30: 1. SUPER COIN (R Johnson) 4-11

The race meeting at Kelso was lay; 2. Basey 10-1: 3. Arabism Bold 25-1

abandoned (frost)

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1.55 WHSKY MAC HANDICAP HERDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m.4f 015/112 - Almenom Arts (2017) 630 P Moneith 6 12 0 __ 2023/42 * MR Routher (26) (03) P Moneith 9 11 11... 0432-5 - COMMON SOURCE (43) P Bratisy 5 11 9 __ 6711-406 - MASTER HODE (25) (25) W Story 7 10 13... 4/312/40 (2018 BEST (29) (2) 11 O'Neil 5 10 13... 2212-26 - CRYSTAL GREF (26) A Windows 4 10 9 __ 2212-26 - CRYSTAL GREF (26) A Windows 4 10 9 __ 2212-26 - CRYSTAL GREF (26) A Windows 4 10 9 __ 2212-26 - CRYSTAL GREF (26) A Windows 4 10 9 ___ HYPERION 12.25 Tiotao 12.55 Sparky Gayle 1.25 Trap Dancer 1.55 Crystal Gift 2.25 Seeking Gold 2.55 251335 NICHOLAS PLANT (24) (CD) J Golde 7 10 0... 055150- TURISSH TOWER (232) R Nico 5 10 0..... INSPECTION: 10am CHRISTMAS DAY GOING: Good to Soft. - S depland - African weight 10ct 9st 8b. African weight 10ct. Tue bandtop weight Tathih 10ct 9st 8b. AFTINE: 2-1 Aragin Ayr. 4-1 Mr Robbit, 6-1 Crystal Sift, Marier Hyde, 6-1 Sire Best, 8-1 Micholas Plant, 10-1 Common Sound, 12-1 others Electrical State of Series (number 210 pds. ECOURSE is east of LOWA on A758. Ayr station (service from Glasgow) Im. ADMISSION: Club 512; Grandstand 56 (OAPs half-price). CAR PARK: Prec. RINKERED PIRST TIME: Name. 2.25 FIELD AND LAWN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £4,500 added 3m 1f WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Island Chief (225) & Cherry Den (2.55) sent 199 miles by P Beaupout from Brandsby, N Yorks. 12.25 PORT NY BRANDY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,500 added 2m 34-5010 STYLISH BUERNAL (10) [D] N Wegger 4 12 0 __P Cederry 12-4541 TRESHMAN (10A) (3) (0) P Montech 7 11 10 (7e) a Supple 300/90 MODERNA (03A) 4 Walter 5 10 10 __S Toylor (3) 07-45-45 DOUGRAN (05C) 4 Walter 5 10 10 __S Toylor (3) 07-45-45 DOUGRAN (05C) (45 R Ahn 5 10 8 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C Pader 6 10 8 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C Pader 6 10 8 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C Pader 6 10 8 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C Pader 6 10 8 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C Pader 6 10 8 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C Pader 6 10 3 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C Pader 6 10 8 __S Meltran (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (33) C PADER (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (7) 07-40-34 TOYLO (7) 07-4 - 4 doctored Affinitum weight: 10st. Two hards weights: Seeking Gold Ser 12th, Funny Old Game Ser 1th, Wife Sparide Ser. BETTINE: 4-11 Inland Chief, 6-1 Seeking Gold, 7-1 Ville Sparide, 8-1 Fast-5 06/6-060 GRBMELL (43) D McCores 5 10 3 K Johnson 7 045/9-5 SCHOOL OF SCHOO 255 IVY NATIONAL HUNT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,500 added 2m 4f 3/13 MULTIPRY ACADEMY (25) 6 Roberto 7 11.5 P Cert 2512-62 CALLEBONER DAN (25) M Robertos 6 10 12. 3/13 2011 INSTANCE CHARMAGE (229 M Today of 6 10 12 1532-62 CALLERHOER (DAN (23) M Today of 6 10 12 1532-62 CALLERHOER (DAN (23) M Today of 6 10 12 150 CALLERHOER (DAN (24) M Today of 6 10 12 150 CALLERHOER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 12 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M TOWN 6 10 150 CALLER (DAN (24) M 12.55 GOOSE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) 1 3254-11 SPARKY GAVILE (28) (CD) C Parter 6 11 10 2 PA/CS2 BOLD BOSS (20) G M MOVER 7 10 12 3 SSA19* EMERALD SEA (USA) (883) J Santay 9 30 12 44 544-005 GAMO AS ONT (TD McDare 6 10 12 2 14-37* JACK DOVILE (20) J J O'RA BETTING: 4-5 Sparty Gayte, 7-2 Sold Beas, 6-1 Jack Doyle, 10-1 Raffe-gia, 20-1 Emersid Son, Grand As Owt, 25-1 Gilet Of Agr 1.25 EVENING TIMES NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 4f | CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 4f | | 1 2373-64 ANOTHER VENTURE (LIS | Morphy 6 11 10) ... | P Carberry 2 107P MONNAE FORTE (27) (CD) | Jelan 6 11 10 ... | K Johnson 3 462122 TRAP DANICER (L7) (EF) P Moreon 8 11 9 ... | Mr R Hole 4 20122 TRAP DANICER (L7) (EF) P Moreon 8 11 9 ... | Mr R Hole 5 PSP65-1 MAJORITY MAJOR (22) P Crestorogi 7 11 4 ... A 5 Smith 6 415045 MASTER OF TROY (372) C Paties 8 11 0 ... | D Paties 7 333346 WHITE DANION (CT) Kins L V Russel 8 10 13 ... L Offices 8 11 MAPP SHOW YOUR HAND (E) (D) Liungo 8 10 11 ... | M Beatley 9 E203-03 SINGING SAND (LIO) P Moreon 6 10 8 ... | R Supple 10 337-061 MANNY (25) M Barries 6 10 7 ... | S Taylor (S) 11 33-1044 MAJSIC BLEZ (LS) Ms D TROYS (TS 10 00) (Richard Response CS) 2 04-100 FRE LINE (28) Ms D TROYS (TS 10 00) (Richard Response CS) Kempton may be robbed of another star name from its Christmas meeting with Alder-brook unlikely to make his reappearance on Friday unless the ground eases. With Grand National winner Rough Quest not guaranteed to contest the King George VI Chase, former Champion hurdler Alderbrook is also a doubt 40-UOO FINE TUNE (28) Ms S Bradoure 6 10 Officianal Bres 2-0446P BRIGHT DESTRY (10) J Golde 5 10 0 - 13 declared - 13 declared Minimum weight: 10st. Tops weights: Fire Tone. Beight Destiny 9st 8th. BETTING: 7-2 Majority Major, 4-1 Show Your Hand, 5-1 Aucthor You 7-1 Master Of Troy, 3-1 Singing Sand, Trap Dancer, 12-1 others SENCE E DATE: 12.10 Erni 12.40 Tribune 1.10 Brighter Shade 1.40 Adib 2.10 Jendee 2.40 Fuli O'Praise 3.10 Gienvaily GOING: Good to Soft. Left-hand, undulating coarse. 500yd run-in on chase course. Course is in SE of town near junction of A889 and A177. Bus service from Stockton station (9m) or Durham station (12m). AD-MISSION: Packieck 58 (OAPs 54); Course 52. CAE PARE: Free. VISORED FIRST TIME: Pocaire Gaotiste (12.10) WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Fen Terrier (3.10) won at Catterick on Thursday. LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Calllin Caper (12.46) has been sent 108 miles by T Watson from Willomphum, Lines. 12.10 STANLEY RACING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £2,500 3m 3f 110yds 11 GOOD MAND (117) S Retinated 10 11 12 _____ \$ Lee (\$) 250-22 BARRER (45) (BF) Mix A Swinberk 7 10 12 _____ \$ Lee (\$) 250-22 BARRER (45) (BF) Mix A Swinberk 7 10 12 _____ \$ Supple 00-0051 BARRISTORMER (127) E Blott 10 10 12 _____ \$ F Rigure (\$) B 079357 CHAIL PRETOR (25) Mix M Restley 6 10 12 _____ \$ Cabil 3 ERM (FR) (15) T Tate 4 10 12 _____ R McCartley (7) 10 Mix (FR) Mix S Homer-Taker 6 10 12 _____ M Footier 00- OLAMERS MIX (250) P Dennis 6 10 12 _____ M Swills 0470-400 POCARE GAOTHE (25) W Storey 6 10 12 _____ M Maloney V 00-005TOCK 100GE (15) V Brompson 8 10 12 _____ Mix Mix Thompson

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	for the Christmas Hurdle. It raises the prospect of Alderbrook travelling to Leopardstown on January 19 to underline his Cheltenham credentials.	8 9 9
		. –
	1.40 STANLEY RACING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £2,500 3m 3f 110yds	
	2 15 LONGCROFT (124) (87) \$ Retievel 4 11.0	'
•	4 OPODO-6 IRISH BUZZ (16) Mrs A Swintperk 4 10 12 Mr Chefs Wilson	1
•	5 005/P LIAM'S LOSS (16)) Parles 7 10 12	[
•	7 05-P500 BUBBER (15) R Thomson 9 10 12	
,	9 00050/ IQNOCKREIGH CROSS (1,058) B Rothwell 7 10 7	
•	- 9 declared - BETTING: 5-2 Longeroff, 11-4 Delay Days, 7-2 Adib, 9-2 Movie Man, 12-]] 2
ı	1 Irish Buzz, 14-1 Dear Jean, 18-1 others	
ı	2-10 NORTH YORKSHIRE BORO BEST HANDS	7
	GAP CHASE (CLASS E) ESPOO SIII SI	1
	 P51-P65 SON OF \$88\$ (16) (2) \$87] Ms M Reveloy 8 11 10 M Swith O/PC-SFF MARCHWOOD (7) N Chamberlain 9 11 10	
:	3 (36PP-U TWIN STATES (22) (CD) J Torner 7 11 10	[
	4 C322-UU CHOISTY (16) Mrs A Sembank 6 11 4	1 1
	6 A1.P5 HURRICHIE ANDREW (29) J S Moore 8 10 12 Mr N Wilson 7 0206-36 KINGS SERMON (16) P Besumont 7 10 4 E Calleghan (2)]] 1
	8 51/41 DANNA LAD (16) (C) Mrs A Swinter A 7 10 3	2
	9 5545-PP SNOOK POINT (6) D Lamb 9 10 1	3 4
	BETTING: 3-1 Danie Led, 4-1 Kings Section, 5-1 Circlety, 6-1 Sen of Irls, Marchimood, Jandon, 10-1 others	5 6 7
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Ž
	2.40 RENT ROLL CUP HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 110yds	9 9
	1 515-241 WEAVER GEORGE (16) (CD) W Storey 6 12 0	"
	3 20015/2 COVER POINT (10) J RizGozid 5 11 2	9
	4 123(23 VAL DE RAMA (25) (C) Denys Smith 7 11 1 G Cabiil 5 6524(P3 CHILL WIND (345) N Byoth 7 10 13 J Supple	l 🛚
	6 4330-50 SUPER SANDT (25) (D) F YESCH 9 19 9 N. JORGEON	•
	- 6 declared - BETTNIG: 2-1 Weever George, 5-2 Cover Point, 4-1 FmR O'Praise, 9-2 Val	lIr
	De Rassa, 10-1 Chill Ward, 15-1 Super Sandy	
	3.10 HALLGARTH MANOR HOTEL HANDICAP	123456
		3
	1 3633/06 DUAL MARIE (10) J ProGesid 9 12 0	5
	3 241521 FEN TERRIER (7) F Murtagh 4 11 10 (7eq E Callaghon (3) 4 5135- EUROLINK THE REBEL (213) S Clark 4 11 8 Mios R Clark (7)	6 7
	5 1F42-42 DUNE OF PERTH (8) J H Johnson 5 10 12 6 F Ryan (5)	ä
	6 \$30/10-4 \$216CBAK TREER (49) G Holmes 6 10 11	[[w
	8 O/G-1421 CLERNALLY (20) B Namey 5 10 6	\$
	10 006P/0 MAPLE BAY (6) 8 Pison 7 10 06 Cabil	│ │ ₋
	_ 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10	[
	Abrimum weight 10st. True handling weight: Maple Bay Bet 6b. BETTRIC: 7-2 Fen Terrier, 9-2 Here Comes Herbie, 5-1 Eurobeist, Date Of Porth, 7-1 Gynacrait Tiger, Glemeily, 8-1 Deal lenge, 10-1 others	1 1
		2 3
	Jason Titley has landed the plum spare ride	1 1 4

3.00 Wisley Warrior	THE THE COURT OF STREET STREET
INSPECTION: 7.80mm BOXING DAY	2.00 FESTIVE SPIRIT NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 2f
GODNG: Chase course - Good; Hurdles - Good to Soft.	1 F2-212 R1995 QUARTS (24) (25) D Mindson 5 11 5
Right-hand, level course. Run-in 200yds.	Ilentry (\$
Recognize is at junction of A1 and A604. Huntingtion railway station (service from London, King's Cross) is one mile away. Alb-	2 010-21 SAUMON BREEZE (SS) N Henderson 5 11 5 J B JAnsangh
MISSION: Members 512; Tartersells 58; Course 54. New Tartersells	3 30-6 BANK AVERUSE (15) Mrs. J Pernan 5 10 12
facilities in use. CAR PARK: Free.	X Hopes (7)
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Kamikaso (12-30), Wisley Wonder (12-30), WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.	5 000-P CLASSIC JESTER (190) R (Immpton 5 10 12
LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Tribune (1.00) has been seen 179	6 368080 MONTECOT (FR) (88) S Mehr 7 10 12
miles by C Thornton from Middlehum, North Yorkshire; Topumyer	· Oliv Abraham Sun, phy 170mig 3 in 12 in 18 in
(1.00) & My Buster (8.00) sent 179 rules by Miss S Hall from Cov- erham, North Yorkshire.	8 63-60 \$NAMORELLO (19) H Tresso Devet 5:10:12_D Billion bir
	9 2 KORBELL (12) P Nictols 7 to 7
12.30 CHRISTMAS TIDE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 4f 110 yes	in critosa bur men antierr (se) cap i reser e to r
(CLASS E) 54,200 added 2m 4f 110yds	11. 4200-03 PANLOWA (22) R Rove 6 10 7 0 0 Taillion
1 11-1211 MISTER DRIM (28) (20) 14 William 7 11 12 J R Kannanga	- 11 declared - BETTING: 5-2 Kerbell, 3-1 Pying Gamer, 7-2 Selmon Brown, 8-1 Sun-
2 SS434 FLEPANCE (20 N Service 5 10 12	Strain, 12-1 Back Areast, 15-1 Parions, Lady High Shorld, 20-1 others
4 SECF-P2 JAC DEL PRINCE (25) P Nichola 6 10 12 Lammaca	
5 40 JOLY BONT (4) Florish 9 10 12	2.30 BOXING DAY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS
8 11:040- KAMIKUZE (288) K Balley 6 10 12	2.30 BOKING DAY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS) F) £3,600 added 2m 110yds 1 (1995) HONDING III 20 61 Feb 12 11 11
8 6/5/75-2F THE SHIT PADRE (15) Mrs. J Perman 7 10 12	1 006P-P5 MONONY CLUB (26) (D) / Tuck 12 11 11
9 03-U432 VASUEY WONDER (19) (NF) N Twestor-Course 6 10 12	W Martin
-9 declared -	3 621243 CHAFTY CHAPLAN (10) (D) D McCam 10 11 8
BETTING: 5-2 Minter Draws, 7-2 Wilsoy Weader, 6-1 The Stry Peaks, 7-1 Hamming Work, 8-1 Planesco, Jun Del Prince, 9-1 Salegide, 19-1 Hamming.	4 03547-1 SCORESHEET (21) (D) Galled 5 11 4
25-1 John Book	5 4-5F-GP SHREND XHN (44 (CD) Nex K-Group 10 11 2
<u> </u>	6 EF43-3 DANTE'S WEW (USA) (3) P Hedger 8 11 2 D-0'Shifteen
1.00 CHRISTMAS BOX HANDICAP HURDLE	- 8 declared -
(SETTING: 7-4 Scoresheet, 5-2 Dunte's View, 7-2 Constrier, 5-1 CmRy Chapitals, 14-1 Monthly Chib, 20-1 Shreed John
1 042-664 MANESEE (17) (C) (D) N Cologram 9 12 0 R Manage (S) 2 10150-1 TRESINE (56) (D) C Thomas 5 12 0	
3 /03P/15- TOPS/INVER (949) Max S Half 8 11 13 A Thornton	3.00 MISTLETOE STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL
4 P3213-0 CAMBO (USA) (21) (D) M Bartis 10 11 11	UNIT LINE KNICE (CEVES II) ETPAN
6 3212P4 FIRST CRACK (22) (CD) F Jordan 11 11 4 L Appell (3)	added 2m 110yds
7 20504-0 TRESTAY'S CONET (200) J.L. Here 9 10 13 D Gallagier 8 03P-330 KATEMALOU (14) K Wington 7 10 0	1 41. DUBLEN FREDRY (31.6) (D) Vern Veneta Willers 5 11 11
9 2606540 THE WEATHERMAN (20) A Jessop 8 10 0	2 1 THE LADY CAPTAIN (25) D Doom 4 11 5
10 /OPO/-FU SCORPION BAY (90) D (Nertch Davis 8 10 0	3 M THE WAN Mrs D Hamb 4 11 4
Michael weight: 10st. True translate weight: Night Fancy Set 5th.	5 MAJESTIC AFFAIR N Fernándo 4 11 4 R Kamanga
BETTING: 3-1 Tribune, 7-2 First Crack, 5-1 Toposwyer, Massree, 6-1 Boylstend, 10-1 Combo, 12-1 others.	6 MENILAF Miss A Woodrow 4 11 4 P Malginy (3) 7 244 MY BUSTER (262) Mass 5 Half 4 11.4 P Malginy (3)
byman, art cane, art cone.	8 SILE NE G PLESSON 4 11 4 processor and Recolor (7)
1 20 BEDFORD LODGE HOTEL HANDICAP	9 SKYCAB J Galory 4 11 4 P Male 10 WEISH ASSET K Wingrows 5 11 4 J Ryen
1.30 BEDFORD LODGE HOTEL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m	11 WESLEY WARRIOR N Twater-Dance 5 11 4 D Westgrouter
	12 0 AMTECTWON (31) A Hule 5 10 13 D 0"Mallions 13 AMTEC MEADOW A Josepp 5 10 13 X Alepons (7)
2 U/12251- CANTONIS FRATER (393) Ms.J Pirren 9 119 W Massine 3 0130/- DARREN THE BRANE (804) (D) C Brooks 8 11 8.D Gallagher	14 HOT 'N SAUCY A Jones 4 10 13 W Mereton
4 414-214 SOLD BERT (14) (CD) A Jones 7 11.3 Bridgenter 5 4-26433 HOUGHTON (22) W Junks 10 11.2	15 0 LUCRATIVE PERK (15) Mes C Caros 4 10 13 Lucrates 16 5-6 MAGGE STRAT (5) Mes A King 4 10 13 Commiss (7)
6 2P451/6- TREAK SULER (426) (D) D McCam 11 10 12	17 0 SWEET MOUNT (15) N TANSETY-DIMMS 4 10 13
7 42-2521 SUGAR HELL (26) (CD) 1 (Stions 6 10 12	
7 42-521. SUGAR HILL (16) (CD) 1 (Right) 6 10 12	
7 42-2521 SUGAR HILL (16) (CD) 1 (Stirrt 6 10 12	- 17 deckend -
7 42-521. SUGAR HILL (16) (CD) 1 (Right) 6 10 12	
7 42-521. SUGAR HILL (16) (CD) 1 (Right) 6 10 12	. Sethers (7) — 17 declared — — 17 declared — BETTRNG: 4-1 Wieley Wester, 8-2 Dublin Freddy, 6-1 Mejestic Affalc, 7-1 Signals, 8-1 The Lady Captain, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 13-1 others
7 42-521. SUGAR HILL (16) (CD) 1 (Right) 6 10 12	. Sethers (7) — 17 declared — — 17 declared — BETTRNG: 4-1 Wieley Wester, 8-2 Dublin Freddy, 6-1 Mejestic Affalc, 7-1 Signals, 8-1 The Lady Captain, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 13-1 others
7 42-521. SUGAR HILL (16) (CD) 1 (Right) 6 10 12	- 17 declared
7 42-2521 SUGAR HILL (15) (20) 1-58mm 6 10 12	-17 declared Sathern (7) BETTHIS: 4-1 Wesley Warrier, 9-2 Datalia Freddy, 6-1 Majorate Affale, 7-1 Signah, 8-1 The Larly Captain, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 12-1 others AND HAGUE FRATENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 1 00-223 ANDARCE WHID (28) M Harmond 6 11 3
7 42-2521 SUGAR HBL (16) (CO) 1-Gibra 6 10 12	1. Softens (7) - 17 declared
7 42-252. SUGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-58mm 6 10 12	L Subers (7) -17 declared BETTHIS: 4-1 Winter Winterfor, 9-2 Dublin Freddy, 8-1 Mejestic Affek, 7-1 Signab, 8-1 The Lady Captain, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 13-1 others LAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 1 00-2213 AMDRICTIC WHID (25) M Harmond 6-11.3 R Garrity (7) 1 07-15-1 LAGUE AMDRISTROM (22) & McCourt 6-11.3 J Osborne 3 22-31.3 PRUSSIA (5) W Cby 5-11.3 J Osborne 3 22-31.3 PRUSSIA (5) W Cby 5-11.3 J TBy Garrier Garrier Section (14) PRoduct 4-10-12 Secretary Lycas
7 42-2521 SUGAR HELL (16) (200) 1-36 for 6 10 12	1. Subsect (7) BETTING: 4-1 Wieley Warrier, 9-2 Dublin Freddy, 6-1 Majastic Affair, 7-1 Signab, 8-1 The Lady Captain, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 12-1 others HAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3rm 1f 1. 00-2213 AMENICISC WIND (22) M Harmond 6 11.3 R Gamithy 07:135-1 LAUCE AMERICAN (22) G McDunt 5 11.3 J Orbonno 3 22-313 PRUSSER (5) W Cay 5 11.3 J They 4 0-0 DECETTRE SECOND (44) PROVINCE 4 10 12 S Bronnigh 5 QF GROEE (11.55) Miss J Bower 7 10 12 Siny Lyone 6 P0 MONTE MAN (25) N Immoden 6 10 12 May Lyone 6 P0 MONTE MAN (25) N Immoden 6 10 12 May Lyone
7 42-252. SUGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-58mm 6 10 12	L Subers (7) 17 deciment — 1.7 deciment — 1.8 Subers (7) 1.9 Subers (7) 1.9 Subers (8) 1
7 42-2521. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-3 Capt T Foster 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 70324-0 INTERES BOY (19) Number 10 10 2	2.30 HAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 1 00-2213 ANDARCTIC WIND (28) M Humand 6 11 3 R Gamithy (07156-1 LANGE MARSTROME 22) G McDurt 6 11 3 R Gamithy (1715-1 LANGE MARSTROME 22) G McDurt 6 11 3 R Gamithy (1715-1 LANGE MARSTROME 22) G McDurt 6 11 3 R Gamithy (1715-1 LANGE MARSTROME 22) G McDurt 6 11 3 R Gamithy (1715-1 LANGE MARSTROME 22) G McDurt 6 11 3 R Gamithy (1715-1 LANGE MARSTROME (24) P Rocklord 4 10 12 S Burnough (1715-1 LANGE MARSTROME MAR) (25) N Illumoter 6 10 12 Mr D Wester 7 10 12 M
7 42-252. SUGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-3 Cert Treater 10 10 7.A Thorston 9 3032-40 IRRIBES BOY (18) N Water 10 10 2	L Salters (7) BETTING: 4-1 Wieley Warrior, 9-2 Dublin Freddy, 8-1 Majestic Affair, 7-1 Signab, 8-1 The Lady Caphala, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 12-1 others HAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3rm 1f 1 00-223 AMMACENC WIND (22) M Hammond 6-11-3 R Gunthly 2 0F118-1 LANCE AMMATEN (24) G McDunt 6-11-3 J Osbume 3 22-3133 PRUSSIA (5) W Cay 5-11-3 J Osbume 4 0-0 DECETTIE SECOND (24) P ROJECT 4-11-2 Bey Lyane 5 07- GINES (1355) Mas J Bower 7-10-12 Bary Lyane 6 P-0 MOOR DANCE MAN (25) N Limmoden 6-10-12 Mr D Verte 7 PD2- TORCH VERT (260) N Water 4-10-12 J Raillon 9 P64-405 ML/2NIC MEMOLE (9) Ns. R Henderch 4-10-7 J Raillon 9 P64-405 ML/2NIC MEMOLE (9) Ns. R Henderch 4-10-7 J. Commiss (7) - 10 declared -
7 42-252. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-68m 6 10 12. PHE- 8 FR13-12 EASTENN HAMER (20) (87) Capt T Foster 10 10 7-A Thorston 9 3032-40 Millies Bolf (18) N Water 10 10 2. D Hamagin (7) 10 464215 PANT LLIK (2) (20) F Jordan 10 10 2. L Aspell (3) HYPERION 1_00 The Milne Captain 1_30 Noyan 2_00 Wee River 2_30 Lance Armstrong 3_00 Furletto 3_30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. If Course is north of town on A449, Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 2 15; Tatterselle 2.6 (OAP members of Dis- mond Club 2-6); Viewing Restammat sold out. CAR PARK: Prec.	Softers (7)
7 42-2521. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-3 Capt T-Scatt T-Sca	L Salters (7) BETTING: 4-1 Wieley Warrior, 9-2 Dublin Freddy, 8-1 Majestic Affair, 7-1 Signab, 8-1 The Lady Caphala, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 12-1 others HAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3rm 1f 1 00-223 AMMACENC WIND (22) M Hammond 6-11-3 R Gunthly 2 0F118-1 LANCE AMMATEN (24) G McDunt 6-11-3 J Osbume 3 22-3133 PRUSSIA (5) W Cay 5-11-3 J Osbume 4 0-0 DECETTIE SECOND (24) P ROJECT 4-11-2 Bey Lyane 5 07- GINES (1355) Mas J Bower 7-10-12 Bary Lyane 6 P-0 MOOR DANCE MAN (25) N Limmoden 6-10-12 Mr D Verte 7 PD2- TORCH VERT (260) N Water 4-10-12 J Raillon 9 P64-405 ML/2NIC MEMOLE (9) Ns. R Henderch 4-10-7 J Raillon 9 P64-405 ML/2NIC MEMOLE (9) Ns. R Henderch 4-10-7 J. Commiss (7) - 10 declared -
7 42-252. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-68m 6 10 12. PHE- 8 FR13-12 EASTENN HAMER (20) (87) Capt T Foster 10 10 7-A Thorston 9 3032-40 Millies Bolf (18) N Water 10 10 2. D Hamagin (7) 10 464215 PANT LLIK (2) (20) F Jordan 10 10 2. L Aspell (3) HYPERION 1_00 The Milne Captain 1_30 Noyan 2_00 Wee River 2_30 Lance Armstrong 3_00 Furletto 3_30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. If Course is north of town on A449, Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 2 15; Tatterselle 2.6 (OAP members of Dis- mond Club 2-6); Viewing Restammat sold out. CAR PARK: Prec.	- 17 deciment
7 42-221. SIGRR HILL (16) ECD J Gifford 6 10 12	- 17 deciment
7 42-252. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-36 and 6 10 12. PHE- 8 FR13-12 EASTENN NAME (20) (20) Foot T Foster 10 10 7-A Thorston 9 3032-40 Minness Not (18) N Water 10 10 2. D Hanagim (7) 10 46-215 PANT LLIK (2) (20) F Jordan 10 10 2. L Aspell (3) HYPERION 1_00 The Minne Capitain 1_30 Noyam 2_00 Wee River 2_30 Lance Armstrong 3_00 Furietto 3_30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: Left-hand course. Course is north of town on A448, Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 2 15; Tattersells 25 (0AP members of Dismond Club 24); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARE: Free. HINEERED FIRST TIME: Fenian Court (3_00), Young Beason (visored, 3_00). WINNERS IN TIME LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.	2.30 HAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 1 00-2213 ANTARCTIC WIND (23) M Humand 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HOURT 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HoUrard 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HoUrard 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HoUrard 6 11 3 Roy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) PRODUCT 6 11 3 Roy CP115-1 CP115
7 42-221. SIGAR HIL (16) [CD] 1-Siture 6 10 12. Pittles 8 R03-12 EASTERN MEME (20) [SP) Corr T Foreign 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 3032-40 Rimers Bot (18) N Water 10 10 2. D Floragin (7) 10 464215 PART LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2. L Aspell (3) HYPERION 1.00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: Left-hand course. GOUNG: Good to Soft: Left-hand course. GOUNG: Course is north of town on A449. Wolverhampton station 1m. ADMISSION: Club 5:15; Tattersells 56 (OAP members of Dismond Club 5:4); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAE PARK: Prec. RLINKERED FIRST TIME: Penkan Court (3.00), Young Benson (viscored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Ballytime (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders.	2.30 HAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 1 00-2213 ANTARCTIC WIND (23) M Humand 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HOURT 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HoUrard 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HoUrard 6 11 3 R Gamithy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) G HoUrard 6 11 3 Roy CP115-1 LANCE AND STORM (20) PRODUCT 6 11 3 Roy CP115-1 CP115
7 42-252. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 158 on 6 10 12. PHE- 8 F013-12 EASTENN NEWER (20) (87) Cort T Foster 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 303240 Millies Boy (18) N Water 10 10 2. D Panagim (7) 10 464215 PANT LLIK (2) (20) F Jorden 10 10 2. LApad (3) HYPERION 1.00 The Milne Capitain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furietto 3.30 Out on A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. I Course is north of town on A448, Wolverhampton station Immond Club 54); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARK: Prec. BLINEERED FIRST TIME: Peniam Court (3.00), Young Beason (visored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Ballytime (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders.	1. Subsect (7) BETTING: 4-1 Winter Winter (8-2 Dublin Freddy, 8-1 Minjestic Affek, 7-1 Signab, 8-1 The Lady Caphin, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 13-1 others LAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 1. 00-2213 AMDRICTIC WIND (25) M Harmond 6-11-3 R Garrity (9) 2. 07156-1 LANCE AMDRISTROM (22) G McCurt 6-11-3 J Osborne 3 22-31-3 PRUSSIA (5) W Cby 5-11-3 McCurt 6-11-3 J Osborne 3 22-31-3 PRUSSIA (5) W Cby 5-11-3 McCurt 6-11-3 J Osborne 6 00-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-1
7 42-252. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 158 on 6 10 12. PHES RIG3-12 EASTENN NAME (20) (20) FORT FORTE 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 303240 NUMBER 10 (10) Number 10 10 2. D Hanagim (7) 10 464215 PANT LLIK (2) (20) F Jordan 10 10 2. L Aspell (3) HYPERION 1.00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. I Course is north of town on A448. Wolverhampton station Immond Club 54); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARE: Prec. BLINEERED FIRST TIME: Fentan Court (3.00), Young Benson (visored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Ballyline (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 1.00 JAMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 110yds	- 17 deciment
7 42-221. SIGRR HILL (16) ECD J Gifford 6 10 12. PHE- RUG3-12 EASTERN HIMES (20) (16) Cort F foreit 10 10 7 A Thorston 9 30323-40 RIBBRS B07 (18) N Waler 10 10 2. D Flanagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2. L Aspell (3) HYPERION 1.00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furietto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: II Left-hand course. If Course is north of town on A449. Wolverhampton station 1m. ADMISSION: Club 515; Tatterselle 55 (CAP members of Dismond Club 54); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAE PARK: Free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Peniam Court (3.00), Young Benson (visored, 3.00). WINNIERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Ballytime (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 1.00 JUMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 02211-3 THE IMPE GAPTAM (20) (5) O Snewood 9 11 10 J Ophorae	Solvers (7)
7 42-2521. SIGAR HELL (16) (20) 1-36 ton 16 10 12	1. Selbers (7) BETTING: 4-1 Wieley Warrior, 9-2 Dublin Freddy, 8-1 Minjestic Affair, 7-1 Silpenb, 8-1 The Lady Caphala, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 12-1 others HAGUE FASTENERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3rm 1f 1. 00-2233 AMEMBERS WING (28) M Hammond 6-11-3 R Gunthly 20 OF116-1 LANCE AMESTROMS (29) G McCourt 6-11-3 J Outside 3 22-3133 PRUSSIA 65 W Cay 5-11-3 T Bay 4
7 42-2521. SIGKR HILL (16) (20) 1-38 (20) (20) Cort To care 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 2022-40 RIBBRS BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2	Solvers (7)
7 42-2521 SIGER HILL (SIS) [CD] 1-Sittor 6 10 12 PHE- R013-12 EASTERN MEMBE (20) (SP) Cort To case 10 10 17 A Theretor 9 30325-40 REBRIS BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. I Course is north of town on A448. Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 5.15; Tattersells 5.6 (OAP members of Dis- mond Club 5.4); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARE: Prec. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Pendan Court (3.00), Young Ben- son (visored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE EURNERS: Ballyline (1.00) sent. 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 100 RAMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 02213 THE MBE CAPTAIN (34) (3) 0 Snewcod 9 11 10 2 FIRSAU HOLY WANDERSE (BSA) (3) T George 7 11 8	Software (7)
7 42-221. SIGAR HILL (16) ECD J Gifford 6 10 12 PHOSE RIGHS 12 EASTERN HIMME (24) (26) P. Cort To rest 10 10 7.4 Alberton 9 30323-40 RIBBRS BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2 D. D. Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (20) F Jordan 10 10 2 L. Aspell (2) HYPERION 1.00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armsstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. I Course is north of town on A448, Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 5 15; Tattersalle 56 (OAP members of Dis- mond Club 5 4); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARKE Free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Penian Court (3.00), Young Ben- son (visored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THIE LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUBNERS: Ballytime (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 1.00 JUMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 02211-3 THE HIME CAPTAN (24) (6) 0 Serverod 9 11 10 J Outcome 1 HANDERS CHOICE (17) R Aire 6 11 7 J Henity (3) 4 201225 BALYLINE (30) W Kemp 5 11 0 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callagem 1 BESSEP JUMPS SIRLING (38) (2) H Ober 9 10 5 J Callag	Software (7)
7 42-2521 SIGER HILL (SIS) [CD] 1-Sittor 6 10 12 PHE- R013-12 EASTERN MEMBE (20) (SP) Cort To case 10 10 17 A Theretor 9 30325-40 REBRIS BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 464215 PMRI LLR (2) (CD) F Jorden 10 10 2 DR Panages (7) 10 00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. I Course is north of town on A448. Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 5.15; Tattersells 5.6 (OAP members of Dis- mond Club 5.4); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARE: Prec. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Pendan Court (3.00), Young Ben- son (visored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE EURNERS: Ballyline (1.00) sent. 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 100 RAMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 02213 THE MBE CAPTAIN (34) (3) 0 Snewcod 9 11 10 2 FIRSAU HOLY WANDERSE (BSA) (3) T George 7 11 8	Solvers 1 Solvers 1 Solvers 1
7 42-2521 SIGAR HILL (16) ECD J Gifford 6 10 12 PHOSE R R03-12 EASTERN HIMME (20) (ED) F Lord To Cast 10 10 7 A Riberton 9 30323-40 RIBBRS BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 L Appell (3) HYPERION 1.00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. I Course is north of Lown on A449. Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 5 15; Tattersalls £6 (OAP members of Dismond Club 5 4); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARK: Free. RINKERSD FIRST TIME: Fentan Court (3.00), Young Benson (visored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THIS LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUINNERS: Ballytime (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 1.00 JUMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 11.0yds 1 0221:3 The MME GYTAM (24) (8) 0 Servect 9 11 10 Johnne 2 FIRSSI J HOLY WANDERER (18) (3) T George 7 11 8 R Parist 3 0460-11 MARMYS CHOICE (17) R Airs 6 11 7 J Phoney (3) 4 201225 BALLYLIE (30) W Kemp 5 11 0 J Collegion 5 163325 WILLE MARET (5) DR Philips 6 10 9 J Raillon 6 85249 MINES SHALING (18) (20) R Obe 9 10 5 Legal Ober 7 0694-3P HAMSOVER (20) R Les 10 10 1 J B Hogen (3) 8 4-06503 SAYMORE (7) W Cay 10 10 0 J T Einy 9 40-0245 TOTAL ASSET (16) A Forbes 6 10 0 Gry Lyons	Solvers (7)
7 42-2521 SIGKR HILL (15) [20] 1-58 (10) 12 PHE- RUBS 2 EASTEM MRME (24) (45) Coor T Foots 10 10 7 A Thorston 9 30323-40 RIBBRS BOY (15) N Valler 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLRK (2) (20) F Jorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLRK (2) (20) F Jorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLRK (2) (20) F Jorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLRK (2) (20) F Jorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLRK (2) (20) F Jorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 00 The Mine Captain 1 30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Rurietto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: I Left-hand course. I Course is north of town on A449. Wolverhampton station 1m. ADMISSION: Clab \$15; Tattersells \$6 (0AP members of Dismond Clab \$4); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARK: Free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Penian Court (3.00), Young Benson (visored, 3.00). WINNIERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE EUNNEES: Ballytime (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 1.00 JUMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 1 0221-3 THE MINE GAPTAIN (20) (5) O Snewcod 9 11 10 Johnnag 2 FIRSSAU HOLY WARDERER (15A) (3) T George 7 11 8 R Farmat 3 0460-11 MAMBY'S CHOICE (17) R Ainer 6 11 7 P Henley (3) 4 20122F BALYLINE (20) W Kemp 5 11 0 J Callagem 5 16322F WILLE MAKET (5) (3) R Paligs 6 10 9 J Railton 6 82549 MINES SHILLING (18) (19) (10 10 0 J Edings (3) 8 4062503 SANMORE (7) W Gay 10 10 0 J Edings (3) 9 40-0245 TOTAL RSSET (16) A Fobes 6 30 0 JR Paligs (3) 10 242400 SUBBAH (18A) (16) 1 Poleting 7 10 0 JB Penama	Solvers 1 Solvers 1 Solvers 1
7 42-2521 SIGAR HILL (16) ECD J Gifford 6 10 12 PHOSE RIGHS 12 EASTERN HIMME (20) (ED) F Lord To Cast 10 10 7 A Theretor 9 30323-40 RIBBRS BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 10 10 2 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 10 10 10 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D Planagim (7) 10 464215 PART LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D Planagim (7) 10 464245 PART SHELLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D PLANAGIM (24) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 D	Solvers (7)
7 42-2521 SIGAR HILL (16) (20) 1-36 cor T Focus 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 2023-40 RIBBINS BOY (18) N Valler 10 10 2	Solvers 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
7 42-2521 SIGKR HILL (15) (20) 1 Giftert 6 10 12	BETTING: 4-1 Winley Warrior, 9-2 Dublin Freddy, 8-1 Minjestic Affair, 7-1 Signab, 8-1 The Lady Caphin, 10-1 in The Van, My Buster, 12-1 others CLASS E
7 42-2521 SIGKR HILL (15) ECD J Gifford 6 10 12	Solitors 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
7 42-2521 SIGAR HILL (16) (20) (16) Cort T Forter 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 2023-40 Ribbes BoY (20) (16) Cort T Forter 10 10 7.4 Thorston 9 2023-40 Ribbes BoY (20) (16) Nober 10 10 2	Solvers 1
7 42-521. SIGAR HILL (16) (20) (16) Cort T Foreign 10 10 7. A Thorston 9 2023-40 RIBBRS BOY (18) N Waler 10 10 2	Software 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
7 42-521. SIGAR HIL (16) ECD J Gifford 6 10 12 Pilles 8 R03-12 EASTERN HIMME (20) (ED) F Lord To Cast To State 10 10 7 A Therator 9 30325-40 RIBBRS BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Langel (3) HYPERION 1.00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Noyan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise GOING: Good to Soft: IL Left-hand course. If Course is north of Lown on A449. Wolverhampton station Im. ADMISSION: Club 5 15; Tatterselle £6 (OAP members of Dismond Club 5 4); Viewing Restaurant sold out. CAR PARK: Free. RILNEERED FIRST TIME: Fentan Goart (3.00), Young Benson (visored, 3.00). WINNERS IN THIS LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUINNERS: Ballytime (1.00) sent 262 miles by W Kemp from Duns, Borders. 1.00 JUMPING COURSE NOVICE HTCAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 11.0yds 1 0221:3 The MEE CAPTAIN (24) (3) 0 Serveced 9 11 10 Johnson (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 11.0yds 1 0221:3 The MEE CAPTAIN (24) (3) 1 George 7 11 8 R Parant 3 0460:-11 MAMMYS CHOICE (17) R Airer 6 11 7 Planaging (3) 4 20122F BALITLIES (30) W Kemp 5 11 0 Johnson Planaging (3) 4 4 06503 SAMMORE (3) (3) R Philips 6 10 9 Jamino 6 862549 MINES SHILLIES (16) A Forter 6 10 9 R Paging 6 10 9 Planaging (3) 4 006245 TOTAL ASSET (16) A Forter 6 10 0 R Paging 10 2 2400 SAMMORE (7) W Cry 10 10 0 R Paging 6 10 9 Planaging (3) 4 006245 TOTAL ASSET (16) A Forter 6 10 0 R Paging 10 2 2400 SAMMORE (7) W Cry 10 10 0 R Paging 6 10 9 Planaging (10 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	September 17 Machineri 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 1
7 42-2521 SIGKR HILL (16) ECD J GROW of 10 112	Solitors 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
7 42-521. SIGAR HIL (16) EXD J Gifford 6 10 12 Pilles 8 R03-12 EASTERN HIMME (20) (ED) F Lord To Set 10 10 7.4 Riberto 9 30323-40 Riberto BOY (18) N Walter 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F Lorden 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 10 10 2 Planagim (7) 10 464215 PAMP PAMP LLIK (2) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 10 466211 BAMBAY'S CHOICE (17) R Airer 6 11 7 Planagim (7) 11 10 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 11 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 11 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 11 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 12 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 13 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 14 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (7) 15 16332F WILLE MARET (5) (ED) R Philips 6 10 9 Planagim (7) 16 16332F WILLE MARET (5) (ED) R Philips 6 10 9 Planagim (7) 17 10 10 Planagim (18) (ED) F LORDen 11 10 Planagim (18) (ED) Planagim (1	Solvers 1
7 42-2521 SIGKR HILL (16) ECD J GROW of 10 112	Solution 1. Subsect 1. Subsect 1.

HYPERION

12.30 Haunting Music 1.00 Boyfriend 1.30 Call Me River 2.00 KORBELL (nap) 2.30 Dante's View

2.35 LANGSTONE HOTEL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,300 added 3m 2f 110yds

11 52-5211 CML NE RIVER (LG) (5) P Hodger 8 10 1. 12 SP664-0 NEELY PRINCY (5) Mrs A Woodrow 8 10 0...

Minimum weight: 10st. True banding weight: Algis Facey Set Sib. BETTING: 5-2 Call Me River, 7-2 Sagar MB, 5-2 Cambrie Frator, On River, 8-1 Solo Gest, 12-1 Dames The Brave, 14-1 others

Minimum weight: 10st. The handled weights: Total Asset Str 12b, Salton's Str 4b. Str 10st. 2-1 Masseny's Choice, 11-4 The Mine Cuptain, 6-1 Holy Wanderst, 8-1 Bailyline, Willie Mahell, 10-1 Heagtow, 14-1 others 130 PLYVINE CATERING NOVICE CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3rm 1f 1 0-11322 FRIHER SKY [12] 0 Shensoot 5 11 6	BOUNG DAY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m 1 231144 YURRALE (USA) (29) (D) M Pgc 4 11 13 J Outome 2 020-211 STASH THE CASH (17) (D) M Harmond 5 11 9R Quantity 3 211 YET AGAIN (14) Miss Gay Relevely 4 11 7. 4 2027-UF Wellpunken Amount (1013 (D) P Methes 10 11 7.A Lamench B 5 21.4113 RAMGINER (D) (28) (D) C Marm 5 11 2 J Rolling 6 3-731 QUT ON A PROMISE (13) (D) N Water 4 10 13 R Ferench 7 41A2-10 ESHMA PUDDLEDUCK (18) (D) A Street 5 10 6 J Bay 8 636-210 ESHMA PUDDLEDUCK (18) (D) A Street 5 10 6 J Bay 9 000PS SHPTIME MOOK (22) F Jorden 4 10 0 P Mestey (3) 9 declared - Minimum weight 10st, Tax handkap weights Separatic 9st 130, Shifting Moon 9st 110. EXTERNE: 5-2 Yet Again, 7-2 Steph The Cants, Yukraise, 5-1 Rangithal, 3-1 out on A Promise, 10-1 Shifting Moon, 34-1 others Prospects for Boxing Day hinge on whether forecast frost stays away this evening. There are
2.00 HARRY BROWN MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £20,000 added 2m 1 47:101-2 CLAY COUNTY (86) (D) M Hammond 11 12 0	fears that Ayr will lose its Boxing Day fixture to the weather. Clerk of the course Mark Kershaw said: "We had quite a lot of frost last night and we certainly couldn't have raced today. The forecast is not good, with more frost likely, so we have planned an inspection for 10.00am on Christmas Day. The outlook is not good but we want to give it every chance if there a squeak of racing." Prospects for other meetings largely depend on how the weather shapes up over the next two days. At Wincanton, clerk of the course Ian Renton said: "At the moment there is no frost in the ground. But judging by the forecast, things look pretty dire."
	5 3514-52 THREE SANTS (22) Capt T Forsier 7 10 5
HYPERION	7 300231. KEANO (264) (20) P Hobbs 7 10 2
1.25 Jelali 2.00 Bond Jnr 2.35 Red Parade 3.05	7 300231- KENNO (26G (CD) P Hobbs 7 10 2B Powell 8 3PUP-PP GOLDEN OPAL (10) R Budder 11 10 0M Griffiths (7) - 8 declared -
	7 300231. KEANO (264) (CD) P Hobbs 7 10 2
1.25 Jelali 2.00 Bond Jnr 2.35 Red Parade 3.05 Stormy Passage 3.35 Parade Racer 4.05 The Lancer GOING: Heavy.	7 300231- KEANO (264) (20) P Hobbs 7 10 2B Powell 8 3PUP-PP GOLDEN OPRE (18) R Bucker 11 10 0M Gridiths (7) 8 declared
1.25 Jelali 2.00 Bond Jnr 2.35 Red Parade 3.05 Stormy Passage 3.35 Parade Racer 4.05 The Lancer	7 300231. KEANO (264) (CD) P Hobbs 7 10 2
1.25 Jelali 2.00 Bond Jur 2.35 Red Parade 3.05 Stormy Passage 3.35 Parade Racer 4.05 The Lancer GOING: Heavy. I Left-hand, sharp, course with short run-in. II Course is north of town on A380. Newton Abbot station a mile user. ADMISSION: Tatersulls 510; Course 55. Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARE: On rulls 51.50, remainder free. SUINEERED PREST THUS: Bayerd (3.35). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DIATE. None. LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Pourt's Choice (2.00) sent 168 palles by J McCoonochie from Wilmente, Warwickshire.	7 300231. KEANO (264) (CD) P Hobbs 7 10 2
1.25 Jelail 2.00 Bond Jur 2.35 Red Parade 3.05 Stormy Passage 3.35 Parade Racer 4.05 The Lencer GOING: Heavy. Left-band, sharp, course with short run-in. Course is sortil of town on A380. Newton Abbot station a mile away. ADMISSION: Tactersalls 510, Course 55. Accoropanied under-16s free. CAR PARE: On rules \$1.50, remainder free. SLINKERED PIRST TIME: Bayers (3.35). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DESTANCE EURONERS: Pearl's Choleo (2.00) sent. 165 miles by J McCouncole from Winnerce. Wardelshire. 1.25 THURLESTONE HOTEL HURDLE (CLASS E) \$2,000 added 370 2m 1f 1. EAN (22) Distray Smith 115	7 300231. KEMNO (264) (CD) 9 Hobbs 7 10 2 B Powell 8 3P(P-P) GOLDEN OPAL (2D) 9 Bucker 11 10 D M GHERIBS (7) - 8 declared 92 Kesson, 6-1 Allo Georgia, Three Salaris, 7-1 Controle France, 12-1 others 3.05 Dy 5.3,750 acided 2 m 17 1 5-412 STORMY PASSAGE (8) (CD) (MP) P Hobbs 6 11.5B Cardond 2 de ASSIDIR (BAS) (200) M PD6 6 11.0 C Supple (7) 10-40 C COURTRY TARQUEN (28) R Hotses 4 11.0 J Herris (7) 4 CF DURES CASSILE (42) R Flott 5 11.0 L F M Febb (7) 4 CF DURES CASSILE (42) R Flott 5 11.0 J Herris (7) 6 3 OHE FOR MARKERON (59) (5) (P) P Nichol 4 11.0 M P Table (7) 7 4440-PD DUNINGES COUNTRY (24) F Turber 6 10.9 M GHERIS (7) 8 C345-0 MARADIS MARVEST (20) R Hodges 4 10.8 B Powell 8 declared 8 de
1.25 Jelali 2.00 Bond Jur 2.35 Red Parade 3.05 Stormy Passage 3.35 Parade Racer 4.05 The Lencer GOING: Heavy. Left-band, sharp, course with short run-in. E Course is north of town on A380. Newton Abbot station a mile sway. ADMISSION: Tracersalis 510, Course 55. Accompanied un- der 16s free. CAR PARE: On rails 21.50, remainder free. 81.INKERED FIRST TIME: Bayerd (3.25). WINNERED RINST TIME: Bayerd (3.25). WINNERES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DESTANCE ETIMISES: Power's Choice (2.00) sent. 165 miles by J McConnochie from Witmense. Warndelshire. 1. JEAN ESTONE HOTEL HURDLE (CLASS E) E 3.000 added 370 2m 1f 1. JEAN ESTONE HOTEL HURDLE (CLASS E) HARLESTONE HURDLE (CLASS E) HARLESTON	7 300231. KEANO (264) (ED) P Hobbs 7 10 2 B Powell 8 3P(P-P) GOLDEN OFM, (10) R Bucker 11 10 D M GHIRIBS (7) 8 declared Britant

#P-P300 6000 FOR A JAIRH (45) 43 687 A Harts 12 11 1 Mr B Street

- 8 designed Minimum weight: 10st. True handloop weight: Minimum weight: 10st. True handloop weight: Minimum Rode 9st 13th.
IESTING: 7-4 The Laures, 7-2 Jointeebler, Feenick, 5-1 Berjamin La castler, Bit, Of A Touch, 12-1 Goed For A Length, 20-1 others

12.45 Samanid 1.15 Golden Helio 1.45 Celestial Choir 2.15 The Grey Monk 2.45 Easthorpe 3.15 Lifebuoy
GOING: Good to Soft. M. Left-hand oval circus. Run-m of 2007th shightly upidil. M. Course is north-rest of cown on B1.23 near gunction of A'-6 and A1. ADMISSION:
Clab £12 (accompanied under-10s free), Tamersulls £7, Course £2 (curs, including up to 4 schols £6). CAR PARK: Free.
RINGERED TIEST TIME: None. WINGERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Torch Vert. (3.15) sent 19.1 miles by N Walter from
Regulate Liste, Oxfordstore.
12.45 CHRISTMAS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added
1 15 ADMANCE EAST (129 (3) M Dode 4 11 4
4 BOLLEN FRAME (44) T Exsuery 4 10 12 R Santhly 5 80 MERNACU (45) C Chee Processory 6 10 12 N Lanch 6 11- MORROC PRINCE (460) T Take 5 10 12 J J F Tilley 7 U13-5 SPURNIES (400) T Take 5 10 12 R J R Tilley 8 DESCRIPTION OF TAKE A TO TAKE A TO TAKE THE TAKE
7 LIS-6 SQUINERNI CROSS (25) M W Earlycy 4 10 12
8-1 Southern Cross, 16-1 Monatel
8000USHBRIDGE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 added
1 5-19131 GOLDEN MELLO (12) (CD) T Eaceby 5-11-12 A Dykhin 2 53302-1 Dulman Mext (15) (D) M Hammord 5-11-9 Rearriey 3 CP-8676 (2006.04, NOTE (1802) (20) Mex 5-5 mm 5-11-4 Mex 7 Money 4 /12POP MESTER MOMA (2020) M Camacho 7-11-4 Method Buest
5 P052-32 CROBLIS LINE (RR2) (55) P Braumont 7 10 13
RETURNS: Brees States Helts, 15-6 During Past, 6-1 Mister Nova, 8-1 Chorus Line, 25-1 Endos! Note
1.45 ST JOHN AMBULANCE HTCAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m
1 33/255 08000 DES NOTICES (FR) (280) G Roberts 512 0 P Corborry 2 965020 NEWESTER (280) (273) J FacCornel 8 11 11 J J F Timby 3 04/4705 Telements Gatte (120) E Lessers 7 11 5 Reacting
4 1110-00 BLARION (S) (D) G Acheds 4 11 0
7 219-442 RMLISSA (RE) (Z2) M Harmond 4 10 0
des Minition, 10-1 Besten Garage ROWLAND MEYRICK HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B)
2.15 £25,000 added 3m 1f
2 PSP-443 SCOTTON BANKS (RIC) (12) (G) (R) T Lesierby 7 11 1
5 22122-1 CML IF A 360 (MS) (47) D Nicroson 8 10 0
SETTING: 7-4 The Grey Monis, 7-2 Call It A Day, 4-1 Judensi, 5-1 Lo Stregone, 8-1 Arro Agena, 18-1 Scotton Bands
2.45 SUPERMASTER HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000
1 128-204 EASTHORPE (14) Mass H Housto & 11 10
2 312403- GENERAL PERSHANG (615-) (20) D Noroken 10 11 7 R. Johnson 3 10,16-11 EASSY JONES (26) (20) S Nemberl 8 11 1 A. Dobbin 4 P-56021 CEMBRIAN CHALLENGE (12) (20) T Excepty 7 11 0 R. Dobbin - 4 declared -
BETTSR2: 8-4 Easily Johns, 7-4 Contries Confenge, 4-1 Eastherpe, 6-1 General Purching
3.15 BORING DAY NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 4f 110yds
1 441-422 THE CAPTAIRTS WISH (LIG) D Nicrolson 5 12 0
5 03525-6 BENU MATELOT (75) MES M MARSH 4 10 5
7 40-0514 LIFEBUDY (IRE) (29) (D) (BF) J Turrer 5 10 3
9 04-445F HOTSPUR STREET (S) M W Easterly 4 10 0 Porhanty 8 10 /040-00 SNE PAIN (8) K Byordt 7 20 0 Porhanty 8 11 000-00 DNE OTHER MAN (RE) (18) Mass L Statel 6 10 0 Porh
- 11 declared - Minimum weight: 20st. True handkap weights: Redex Hammer Set 12b, Hotspur Street Set 12b, Sd Path Set 4b, The Other Man Set 4b.
BETTENC: 9-4 The Captale's Wisk, 5-1 Reflex Hammer, 6-1 Torch Vert, 7-1 Dont Forget Curits, 8-1 Pillington, Silly Money, 12-1 others
HYPERION
12.50 Sip Jig 1.20 Heavenly Miss 1.50 Effervescence 2.20 Passage Creeping 2.50 Bon Secret 3.20 Wottashambles
GOING: Sundard.
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fif & 6t. Left-band, sharp cotume (Equirack surface).
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 5f & 6f.
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for if & 67. ILeft-hand, sharp cotume (Equitack surface). Course is south-east of town on B202R. Lingfield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$ 13, Tattersalls \$9. CAR PARK: Chib \$3; remainder free.
STALLS: inside, except one rule (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fif & 6f. B Left-hand, sharp course (Equinzek surface). B Course is south-east of town on R202R. Lingdield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 5 13, Tattersalls 59. CAR PANK: Chib 53;
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fif & 8f. IL-th-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on BENCR. Lingdield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$ 13, Tattersalls \$9, CAR PARK: Chib \$3; remainder free. BLINKEERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINNEES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Howeally Miss (1.20) won at Lingdield on Priday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNEES: Loveyoundillons (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fif & 8f. IL-th-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on B2028. Lingdeld station (served by London Vartaria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 5 13, Tatternals 59, CAR PARK: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Paney Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miss (1.20) won at Lingdeld on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveycomillons (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinkler from Langton, North Yorksitre; The Wyandotte Ism (1.20) & Eastleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by B Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Staffordshire.
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fit & 8. IL-th-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on R202R Lingdeld station (served by London Vartoria) adjoints course. ADRISSION: Members \$ 13, Tattersalls \$9, CAR PARK: Chib \$3; remainder free. BLINERERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Design (vice; 2.20), Code Red (vice; 3.30). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Howvenly Miss (1.20) won at Lingdeld on Priday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loweycomillions (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Timbler from Langton, North Yorkshire; The Wyandotte Inn (1.20) & Eautleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Stallordshire. 12.50 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV 8) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AW)
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fi & 8f. IL-6b-band, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on B202R. Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 5 13, Tattersalls 59, CAR PARK: Chib 53; remainder free. BLINKEEED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:20); Paney Design (visor, 2:20), Code Red (visor, 3:20). WINDERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miss (1:20) won at Lingdeld on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNEES: Loveycomillions (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinkler from Langton, North Yorkshire; The Wyandette Imm (1:20) & Eastleigh (2:50) sent 158 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Staffornishre. 12.50 EPPHANY CLAMMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 2f (AW) 1 050518 CEDEZ LE PASSAGE FNO (22) K Overngiam Bran 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fil & 6!. Il Left-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Il Course is south-east of town on R2028. Lingdeld station (served by London Virtoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalls 59, CAR PARK: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:20); Faney Design (visor, 2:20), Code Red (visor, 3:20). WINDRES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Hoavenly Miles (1:20) won at Lingdeld on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNEES: Loveycomillions (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinder from Langton, North Yorksture; The Wyandotte Inn (1:20) & Eautleigh (2:50) sent 188 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Staffordshire. 12:50 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 2f (AW) 1 0505:18 CENEZ LE PASSAGE PR) (1:2) K Carangham Boan 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fi & 8f. IL-th-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on REDER. Lingdicki station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Tattersalis \$9, CAR PAKE: Chib \$3; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINNERS IN THIE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1.20) won at Lingdicki on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveyoundillors (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinkler from Langton, North Yorkshire; The Wyandotte Irm (1.20) & Eastleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by B Hollinshead from Upper Longton, Staffordshire. 1250 EPIPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 2f (AW) 1 050518 CEDEZ IE PASSAGE FR) (22) K Carangiam Bown 599
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for if & 6. IL-th-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on R2028. Lingdield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Tattersalis \$9, CAR PAYE: Chib \$3; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Honvenly Mine (1.20) won at Lingdield on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveyoumillons (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinider from Langton, North Yorkstitre; The Wyandotte Inm (1.20) & Eastleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by E Hollinshead from Upper Longton, Staffordshire. 1250 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 2f (AM) 1 CROSSE SEDEZ IE PASSAGE FRO (22) K Ozennyim-Brown 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fit & 61. Il Left-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Il Course is south-east of town on R202R. Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PARK: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Faney Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINDIES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1.20) won at Lingdeld on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNEES: Loveyoundlions (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinider from Langton, North Yorkstire; The Wyandotte im (1.20) & Eautleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by R Hollinshead from typer Longdon, Stafforthshre. 1250 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 2f (AW) 1 050518 CEDEZ LE PASSAGE FR) (12) K Carangiam Boan 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fit & 61. Il Left-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Il Course is south-east of town on R202R. Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PARK: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Faney Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINDIES IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1.20) won at Lingdeld on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNEES: Loveyoundlions (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinider from Langton, North Yorkstire; The Wyandotte im (1.20) & Eautleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by R Hollinshead from typer Longdon, Stafforthshre. 1250 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 2f (AW) 1 050518 CEDEZ LE PASSAGE FR) (12) K Carangiam Boan 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for if & 6'. Bl. Left-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Bl. Course is south-east of town on B2028. Lingdield station (served by London Virtoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Tattersalis \$9, CAR PAKE: Club \$3; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Faney Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1.20) won at Lingdield on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveycomillors (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinder from Langton, North Yorksitre; The Wyandotte Inn (1.20) & Eastleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Stafforthibre. 12.50 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AN) 1 (50518 CEDEZ LE PASSAGE FR) (22) K Conneyton 599
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for file & fil. Il Leb-hand, sharp course (Equinack surface). Il Course is south-east of town on B20CR. Lingdeld station (served by London Virtoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Tattersalls \$9, CAR PAKE: Club \$3; remainder free. BLINKEEED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:20); Paney Design (visor, 2:20), Code Red (visor, 3:20). WINDIERS IN THIS LAST SEVEN DAYS: Howeverly Miles (1:20) won at Lingdeld on Pricky. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNEES: Loveycomillors (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinider from Langton, North Yorkstire; The Wyandotte Ism (1:20) & Eastleigh (2:50) sent 168 miles by R Hollinshead from tipper Longton, Staffortshire. 12:50 EPIPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 2f (AM) 1 050518 CSDEZ IE PASSAGE [FR) (22) K Carangiam Bown 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for if & 8f. IL-th-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). II Course is south-east of town on B2028. Lingdield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Tattersalis \$9, CAR PAKE: Club \$3; remainder free. RLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Faney Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINDERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1.20) won at Lingdield on Priday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNEERS: Loveycomillions (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinkler from Langton, North Yorksitte; The Wyandotte Inm (1.20) & Eastleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by B Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Staffordshire. 12.50 EPEPHANY CLAIMWING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 addled 1m 2f (AM) 1 050518 CEUZ LE PASSAGE FFR (12) K Consengton Brown 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fit & 6f. Bluth-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on BENCR. Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PARKE: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:20); Fancy Design (vicor, 2:20), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1:20) won at Lingdeld on Priday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveycumillions (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinkler from Langton, North Yorkstive; The Wyandette Ium (1:20) & Eastleigh (2:50) sent 168 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Stafforthshre. 12:50 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AW) 1 050518 EBUZ LE MASSAGE FR) (1:2) K Connegium Brown 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fit & 6f. Bluth-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on BENCR. Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PARKE: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:20); Fancy Design (vicor, 2:20), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1:20) won at Lingdeld on Priday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveycumillions (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinkler from Langton, North Yorkstive; The Wyandette Ium (1:20) & Eastleigh (2:50) sent 168 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Stafforthshre. 12:50 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AW) 1 050518 EBUZ LE MASSAGE FR) (1:2) K Connegium Brown 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, carept one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fi & 8f. B Lob-band, sharp course (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on B2028. Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PAKE: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:20); Paney Design (visor, 2:20), Code Red (visor, 3:20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1:20) won at Lingdeld on Priday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveycomillors (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinkler from Langton, North Yorksitre; The Wyandotte Inn (1:20) & Eastleigh (2:50) sent 158 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Staffornishre. 12:50 EPPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AN) 1 (505:18 CSDEZ LE MSSAGE FR) (1:2) K Consentism-Brown 5 9 9
STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fif & 6f. Il Left-hand, sharp course (Equirack surface). Il Course is south-east of town on R20CR. Lingifield station (served by London Victoria) aldoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Takersalis \$9, CAR PARKE: Club \$3; remainder free. REINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:20); Fancy Design (visor, 2:20), Code Red (visor, 3:30). WINNERS EN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1:20) won at Lingifield on Priday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Low-youmillions (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinider from Langton, North Yorksidne; The Wyandotte Iam (1:20) & Restileigh (2:50) sent 156 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Stafforthshre. 12:50 EPIPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added Im 2f (AM) 1 050516 CSUZE LE PASSAGE [PR] (1:2) K Ozumptum-Bront \$9.9
STALIS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 67 & 67. B Course is south-east of town on BCCCR. Lingifield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins ecourse. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PARKE: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.30). WINDERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miss (1.20) won at Lingifield on Fidday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Low-youmillions (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by M Timider from Langton, North Yorksitre; The Wyanadotte Ism (1.20) & Restilegis (2.50) sent 158 miles by E Hollinshead from Tipper Longdon, Stalforthime. 1250 EPIPHANY CLAMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AM) 1 050318 CSEZ LE PASSASE PR) (12) K Chrampton-Bron 5 9 9
STALIS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 67 & 67. B Course is south-east of town on BCCCR. Lingifield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins ecourse. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PARKE: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.30). WINDERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miss (1.20) won at Lingifield on Fidday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Low-youmillions (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by M Timider from Langton, North Yorksitre; The Wyanadotte Ism (1.20) & Restilegis (2.50) sent 158 miles by E Hollinshead from Tipper Longdon, Stalforthime. 1250 EPIPHANY CLAMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AM) 1 050318 CSEZ LE PASSASE PR) (12) K Chrampton-Bron 5 9 9
STALIS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 67 & 67. B Course is south-east of town on BCCCR. Lingifield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins ecourse. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersalis 59, CAR PARKE: Club 53; remainder free. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Design (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.30). WINDERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miss (1.20) won at Lingifield on Fidday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Low-youmillions (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by M Timider from Langton, North Yorksitre; The Wyanadotte Ism (1.20) & Restilegis (2.50) sent 158 miles by E Hollinshead from Tipper Longdon, Stalforthime. 1250 EPIPHANY CLAMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AM) 1 050318 CSEZ LE PASSASE PR) (12) K Chrampton-Bron 5 9 9
STALIJS: Inside, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for Fi & 6f. B Left-band, sharp cotanse (Equirack surface). Course is south-east of town on R202R. Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Taitersalis 59. CAR PARIE: Clab 53; remainder free. BLINKEEED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1.20); Paney Design (vicor, 2.20), Code Red (vicor, 3.20). WINNERS IN TIME LAST SEVEN DAYS: Heavenly Miles (1.20) won at Lingfield on Friday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Lowsycomillons (2.50) has been sent 243 miles by N Tinder from Langton, North Yorshire; The Wyanabete: Inm (1.20) & Eastleigh (2.50) sent 158 miles by B Rollinshead from Upper Longton, Stafforthshire. 1.250 EPBHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1 m 27 (AW) 1. 050518 CEREZ IE PASSASE [FR) (1.2) & Consengism Brown 5.9 9. When 1 B 2 400.22 abmosts water (3.9 page 5.9 5
STALIS: bride, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for fi & fi. BLet-hand, sharp extrane (Equiracle surface). Corres to south-cess of town on R902R Lingfield station (served by Lordon Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members \$13, Testerasis \$29, CAR PARK: Club \$3; Feminister free. BLINEKERED FIRST TIME: Galken Wood (1:20); Fancy Design (visor, 2:20), Code Red (visor, 3:20). WIRNERS IN THIS LAST SEVEN DAYS: Howeverly Miss (1:20) won at Lingfield on Fedday. LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Loveycomallions (2:50) has been sent 243 miles by M Timber from Langton, North Yorkstire; The Wynandotte Inm (1:20) & Readelgh (2:50) sent 156 miles by B Hollinshead from Tipper Longton, Stalionthiatre. 12.50 EPPHANY CLAMMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AW) 1 05558 CEUZ LE PASSAGE FIR (12) K Corregion: Brown 5 9 9
STALLS: braide, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for if is of. B Left-hand, sharp cotume (Equitarel: surface). Course is south-east of town on REOGR. Hinglied station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMINSSION: Members 513, Tattermile 589, CAR PARK: Clab 53; remainder free. BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Namely Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Namely Code Red (1:30), Code Red (1:30), Code Red (1:30), Code Red (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (1:30), Red (1:30), Code
STALLS: braide, except one mile (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for if is of. B Left-hand, sharp cotume (Equitarel: surface). Course is south-east of town on REOGR. Hinglied station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMINSSION: Members 513, Tattermile 589, CAR PARK: Clab 53; remainder free. BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (vicor, 2:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (vicor, 3:20), Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Namely Code Red (vicor, 3:20). BILINKERED FIRST TIME: Oaken Wood (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Namely Code Red (1:30), Code Red (1:30), Code Red (1:30), Code Red (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (1:30); Panery Design (1:30), Code Red (1:30), Red (1:30), Code
STALIS: Inside, current one mile (outside): DRAW ANDVANTAGE: Luy for if if it is in the control, shurp course (Equitate): surface). Course is south-east of utwo on RECUEA. Hingleid station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course, ADMUSSION: Members 513, Tattermale 59, CAR PARKE Clob 53; remainder for the course of the
STALIS: Inside, current one mile (outside): DRAW ANDVANTAGE: Luy for if if it is in the control, shurp course (Equitate): surface). Course is south-east of utwo on RECUEA. Hingleid station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course, ADMUSSION: Members 513, Tattermale 59, CAR PARKE Clob 53; remainder for the course of the
STALIS: Inside, current one mile (outside): DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for if & 6 D. Course is south-east of turn on RECORD. Lingleid station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADVANTAGE: Low on RECORD. Lingleid station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADVANTAGE: Low on RECORD. Lingleid station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADVANTAGE: Club S3; remainder free.
STALIS: Inside, current one mile (outside): DRAW ANDVANTAGE: Luy for if if it is in the control, shurp course (Equitate): surface). Course is south-east of utwo on RECUEA. Hingleid station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course, ADMUSSION: Members 513, Tattermale 59, CAR PARKE Clob 53; remainder for the course of the
STALLS: Inside, carego one mile (conside).
STALLS: Inside, carcept one mile (outside)
STALLS: Inside, carego one mile (outside) DRAW ADVATAGES: Low for it & 6f. Il Leb-land, sharp course (Diptimach surface). Il Course is south-east of Lown on EXCRE, Lingdeld station (served by London Victoria) adjoint course. ADMISSOUN: Members 513, Tasternals 50, CAR FAREC Clash 55; Tasternals 50, CAR FAREC Clash 57; Tasternals 50, CAR FAREC Clash 55; Tasternals 50, CAR FAREC Clash 57; Tasternals
STALLS: Inside, carego one mile (outside)

	2 25PP-53 EDMOTHRST (26) (20) S Nember (4) 7 11 12
9 ,040-00 SKI PATH (S) N Bycrot 7 10 0 O Pears	3 241521 FENTENNER (7) F Mutagh 4 11 10 (7e) F Callegium (3)
- 9 declared -	4 5135- EUROLINK THE REBEL (213) S Clark 4 11, 8 Miles R Clark (7)
Minimum weight: 10st. True handcap weights: Cullin Caper 9st 7lb, World With-	5 1F42-42 DUNE OF PERTH 68 J H Johnson 5 10 12 6 F Ryan (5)
que End Sat 4th, Sid Pauli Sat 2th.	6 53010-4 GMCRAK TIGER (49) G Holmas 6 10 11
BETTHIG: 3-1 Manettie, 7-2 Tribuno, 4-1 Sudden Spin, 9-2 Barton Heights,	7 44F05-P GALLARDER (27) (0) B Rothwell 7 10 8
6-1 Trestri, 7-1 Johnny's Term, 14-1 Cuillin Caper, 20-1 others	8 QR-1421 CLERNALLY (20) B Murray 5 10 6
	9 502-33 HERE COMES HERBIE (G) W Storey 4 10 6
1.10 DURHAM INNS MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4.200 added 2m 5f	10 006P/0 MAPLE BAY 69 B Elson 7 10 0 6 Cabil
1 10 DURHAM RINS MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS	- 10 declared -
£4,200 added 2m 5f	Minimum weight: 10st, True handkup weight: Maple Bay Str Sb.
1 36-260F ARESTODEMUS (24) Mrs L Meshall 7 11 10	BETTOR: 7-2 Fen Terrier, 9-2 Here Comes Herbis, 5-1 Eurobeist, Duite
2 16 BRICK/JER SHADE (45) Min M Reveloy 6 11 10	Of Porth, 7-1 Gymerak Tiger, Glemally, 8-1 Deal Image, 10-1 others
3 POO4 CLONROCHE LIKKY (8) J Windo 6 11 10 K Josep	
4 /OFPP-U COOLRENY (10) V Thompson 7 11 10Mr M Thompson	Jason Titley has landed the plum spare ride
5 OFFFP-0 DESPERATE DAYS (15) F Neby 7 11 10	on Jodami in the Rowland Meyrick Handicap
6 2 DRY HELLAD (22) J Norton 5 II 10	Oil Totami in the Krimiano Medick Lianorcab
	Chase at Wetherby. The Irishman's agent
7 SF53 FMR AUY (7) M Soversty 6 11 10	Graeme James approached trainer Peter Beau-
8 PERM INAMES MISA SMITTER D. I.I. III	Oracine James approached numer's old seems
9 430/P/ MOST RICH (789) B Elson B 11.10	mont when it became clear other jockeys
10 0000-5 NOOSA SOUND (15) Liungo 6 11 10	could not commit themselves to being at
11 50-U2FF ROYAL HANED (7) R Armson 6 11 10 Mr R Armson	Wetherby to take the place of sidelined Mark
12 SAFETY FACTOR J H Johnson B 11 10	Wellierby to take the place of sidenfied Mark
13 0-00 SELDOM BUT SEVERE (26) E Blott 6 11 10 E Calleghan (5)	Dwyer on the 1993 Gold Cup winner. The de-
- 13 declared -	lighted jockey said: "It's brilliant, a lovely Christ-
BETTENG: 9-4 Brighter Shade, 4-1 Dry Hall Lad, 9-2 Safety Factor, 8-1 Form	The second for the ?
Leader, 12-1 Most Rich, 16-1 Pair Ally, Royal Rand, 20-1 others	mas present for me."

- 10 deciared
BETTENS: 5-2 Good Hand, 7-2 Emil, 6-1 Garmatormer, Buber, Chill Factor, 8-1 Ring Fly, 16-1 others

12.40 UNION HALL-SENNA STUD HANDICAP

1 11/3/ JOHNNYS TURN (7,055) J Notion 11 11 13 hr N Nant 2 2025:3F SUDDEN SPIN (8) (8F) J Notion 6 11 4 hr B Gratten (7) 3 1015/01 TREESURE (56) (CD) C Tromton 5 10 12 hr Fother 6 12/0-01 TREESURE (56) NAS A Swinter S 10 11 (7m) J Supple 6 0211-30 BARTON HEIGHTS (10) Ms M Reveley 4 10 8 .C McCommick

	
	12 DEP-515 COMENNY BOY (10) (CD) Mrs.) Pitron 11 10 5
	13 21P226 TIPPING THE LINE (99) M. Pipe 6 10 2 P Holley
THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE	14 391113 CENERAL MOUNTAR (18) (CD) (SF) N Poe 6 10 2
	Souble Mitchel (5)
HYPERION	15 GF72241 ROCKCLEFFE LAD (12) N Tweton-Codes 7 10 0_Mr N Riccoll
12.45 Mrs Em 1.15 Badastan 1.45 Rockeliffe	16, 0-2211 LEIS BE FRANK (10) Noel T Change 5 10 0 (4ec) .T J Murphy
TZ/40 NES EIK JELL DEGESCH EIN CHARLES	15) (1-2711) LEIS DE PROPER (LIU) ROS CARLOS S IN CAPA, 17 HERPIT
Lad 2.20 Southampton 2.50 Fine Harvest 3.20	17 51-415 CLISTORIA DANN (24) (EF) T Keday 6 10 0 S McKell B
Almapa	18 2P5-111 SHOW BOARD (15) Mrs Menta Jones 7 10 0
	- 18 declared -
COVIC. Cood to From	Minimum welste: 10st. True handicap select: Rockelite 9st 11th, Lets De Frank

Umapa		
GOING: Good to Firm. Right-hand, galloping course, Rim-in of 300yr Course is north-east of town on B3081. Tempi service front London, Waterloo) four miles away, itembers 5.14; Tatursalls 59; Course 54. (Under- niclosures). CAR PAKE: Free. JUNIERRED FIRST TIME: Kindle's Delight (A.	ADMISSION: 16s free into all	

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE ZUNNERS: Joshna's Vision (3.20) has been sent 100 miles by E Lee from Byton, Suropshire; Scottish Banchi (2.50) sent 103 miles by P Webber from Mollington, Oxfordshire. FATHER XMAS "NH" NOVICE HURDLE

12	24:	(CLASS E) £3,000 added 4YO fillies 2m
ī	•	PAROUS STARFSS (234) Mass H Krists 10 10 B Fenton
2	04-55	BAY FAIR (15) J Bosley 10 10 II Bosley
3	40	DAYDREAM BELEVER (24) M Salaman 10 10 & Tormey
4	0-6	GALE SPRING (47) R Hodges 10 10
5	000 00	LOCUMA NEW MAD C Modeck TO 10
8	11	MEDIC FIRE (17) P Nicholls 3D 3D
ř		METADI V A SCORE G PRICING 110 110
Ŕ		COCKED MATRICE N MARchel 10 10
-		WEST BAY PREEZE (24) R Bucker 10 10
9	50	- 9 deciared -
		Committee Commit

BETTING: 7-4 Mrs Em, 5-2 Berrier Express, 5-2 may -10-1 Gale Spring, 12-1 Nearly A Score, 16-1 other

1.15 (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m 1f 110yds
1 112F-5P DEXTRA DOVE (5) (C) (3) Smon Barle 9 11 13
a
1 4 646 456 WELLBOKEER (16) (7 BHASAY 9 11) 3
5 22-1317 BIG BEN DUN (7) C Brooks 10 10 2 S McHell
5 2.130 Ma Ben Dan (1) C Motor 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
BETTING: 5-2 Bedaster, 11-4 Desira Dove, 7-2 Andre Level, 6-1 Well Briefol,
I

12-1 Big Ben Dun. O CARD LECAR HIREDI F CRIALIFIER

1.45	(CLASS B) £7,000 added 2m 6f
1 31-1121	FREDDE MUCK (8) N Treston-Davies 6 12 3 (Ber)
4 213-312 5 33-2124	CADOUGOLD (FR) (19) M Poe 5 11 13
6 #1FR-4 7 402212 8 501-110	PENTSMOOD (57) M Chemon 8 11 2
9 25210F2 50 3PF31P 11 201-214	DRIVALI DANICER (15) M Pipe 8 10 9 C Tecnsey DURNALLOW LODGE (8) (b) C Barwell 9 10 7 S Grantos SENERAL TONIC (8) D Ganoció 9 10 6 S Cueras

·· - 📆 - ·

-	<u> </u>
069,615	CONCERNY BOY (10) (CD) Mrs J Pitren 11 10 5
210726	TIPPENG THE LINE (99) M. Pice 6 10 2 Pholicy
215-240	
331113	GENERAL MOUNTAR (16) (CD) (BF) 11 Poe 6 10 2
	Sopbie Mitchell (5)
657761	ROCKCLEFFE LAD (12) N Treaton-Davies 7 10 0_Mr M. Rimoli
W/24,-	Annual Property and the Annual Property of the
0-22111	LETS BE FRANK (10) Noel T Chance 5 10 0 (4ex) T J Marphy
51-415	CLISTIPANIA DAVINI (24) (EF) T Vaciny 6 10 0S McNeill B
2F5-111	SHOW BOARD (19) Mrs Menta Jones 7 10 0
-	- 18 declared -
inco weld	nt: 10st. True hendicap weight: Rockelite 9et 11fb, Lets Be Frank
	21P226 331113 6722/-1 0-22111 51-415 2/P5-111

Set 10th. Gistening June 19st Sh., Snow Board Set 2th. BETRING 5-1 Carloughit, 7-1 Freddie Meck, 8-1 Spetifing Yannin, Rocket Ltd., 10-1 Lein Be Frank, Snow Board, 12-1 Halle Deering, 14-1 others

2.20 MED SEASON CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 2m 5f
1 11:SOU BOBO VACKTON (62) P Achole 7 11:4
4 D(683-FF WOT'NO GRIT (20) A J Wilson 7 10 12
· · ·

2	2.50	HARRY DUFOSEE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 2m
	448L4E4	PINE HARVEST (12) (D) J Spearing 10 11 12
	008P-P5	SCOTUSH BANKET (6) (0) (89) P Webber 8 10 7 5 Cerren HONDAY CLUS (26) (0) / Tuck 12 10 4

Michigan weight: 10st. The handcap weight. Miss Marigott 9st 11lb. st, 9-4 M 7-1 Mes Marigold, 14-1 Monday Clob STERRUP CUP NOVICE HANDICAP HUR-

E		DLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m
1	56-4	SHOW FAITH (14) R Hannon 6 11 10Souble Mitchell (5)
2	222116	CUMARY FALCON (12) (D) (BF) R O'Subsen 5 11 8
3	0/246/0-	FICHANG PLUTTER (285) D Elevorth 8 11 7P Holley
4	/2P0202-	JOSHIJA'S VISION (3) R Lee 5 11 5
5	2566	ABOVE THE CUT RISK) (B) C Montock 4 11 3 B French [
6	302FR-3	FARSINGHIS MITOTO (14) M. Saunders 8 11 2
7	306	SAME CLAS Made of 8 11 0
ġ	P-20352	CNDOY'S FIRST (17) S Melor 4 10 13
9	630-	HOWCOA RIVER (356) P Chapple-Hyern 4 10 11
		O Bustoms (5)
10	334133	ALMAPA (58) R Hodes 4 10 11T Dascombe (2)

PALLADOUR BOY (20) Mrs. J Retter 6 10 0 Paloco, 8-1 Fabricus dy's First, 14-1 others

1.25 Jelali 2.00 Bond Jr anie, Stormy Passage 3.35 ASS GOING: Heavy OING: Heavy.

Left-band, sharp, course with
Course is north of town on A:

ADMISSION: Tademalls ple (7) ris (7) Prost sh (7) sed (7) is (7) Jenius Powoli der-16s free. CAR PARE: On r BLINKERED FIRST TIME: E iers in the last se 1.25 THURLESTONE E) £3,000 add ry Tar-1 JELALI (22) D Marray S U AMASANSA (FR) (40) O APACHE PARK (86A) (BALICS W Tumer 1) (EL BARDADOR R HOSE KNOWESCASH P BOWEN m 6ť pais B Rimel Persil Silord Septe 200 STELL HERE (85) P Bo BETTRIC: 5-4 Joint. 11-4 Royal Dive na, 12-1 B B 2.00 HAPPY NEW (CLASS E) £4,2 22P4-1P ROND DR (15) (C) P Nichols 7 11 5. 13 5U04-P2 JOY FOR LIFE (10) R Scon .: 5100. - 13 declared -Minimum meight; 10st. True transfersp weights: Continal Coyle 9st 13th, Mayb we must reage; List, the considering reages; cardinal Gaye set 1.50, Mayo-Mayo Set 120, Mc-Taull Set 10th, North: Fight Set 7th, High Mood Set Sh. Joy For Life Set Sh. BETTING: 7-2 Kongles Malody, 5-1 Papriles, Parada Racer, 6-1 Bayerd, 8-1 Joy For Life, Mal, 10-1 Faut Rus, 12-1 others 4.05 CHARMANS FINALE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £3,600 added 2m 110yds 233-134 BRIGHAM LANCISTER (23) (5) MIGHT 12 11 30 M BARTON (755-2311 THE LANCER (LA) (CD) (1) Gandalo 7 11 8 B. CHRON (24) 4-13 JANUSTERNER (20) (CD) (1) Milleron 9 11 6 D. D. Salter (5) P21115 BIT OF A TRUCH (LA) (CD) (8 R Foot 10 11 5 D. J. Front

so far

Best value buys Paul McGrath (Derby)

Patrick Vieira (Arsenal)

Aljosa Asanovic (Derby)

Karel Poborsky (Man Utd)

Worst value buys

Find of the season

Match of the season

Goals of the season David Beckham (Man Utd)

v Wimbledon, 17 August

Alan Shearer (Newcastle

United) v Chelsea, 23 No-

David Ginola (Newcastle United) v Manchester Unit-

Gaffes of the season Kevin Pressman (Sheffield)

Wednesday) v Wimbledon,

Southampton playing the Senegalese striker Aly Dia as a substitute against Leeds

following a bogus "recom-

mendation" from George

Weah. Dia was released immediately after an appalling

display in which he himself

was substituted. He is now

on trial with Gateshead.

Peter Schmeichel (Manchester United) v Arsenal,

Campbell, Dean Saunders

and Jason Lee for persistent

achievement throughout the

Robbie Fowler (Liverpool) v

Middlesbrough, 29 seconds

Gordon Strachan (Coventry), 39 years 293 days, v Derby, 30 November Youngest player Jody Morris (Chelsea), 17

years 242 days, v Middles-

brough, 21 August Highest aggregate 9 Southampton 6 Man-

chester Utd 3

16

2.6

Goalless draws

Goals per game

Leading scorer lan Wright (Arsenal) 14

Fastest goal

Oldest player

season

Save of the season

16 November 1996

Miss of the season Joint award to the Nottingham Forest strikers Kevin

ed, 20 October

12 October

Newcastle 5 Man Utd 0

Eyal Berkovitch

(Šouthampton)

20 October

£100,000 plus appearance increments

£960,000

£3.6m

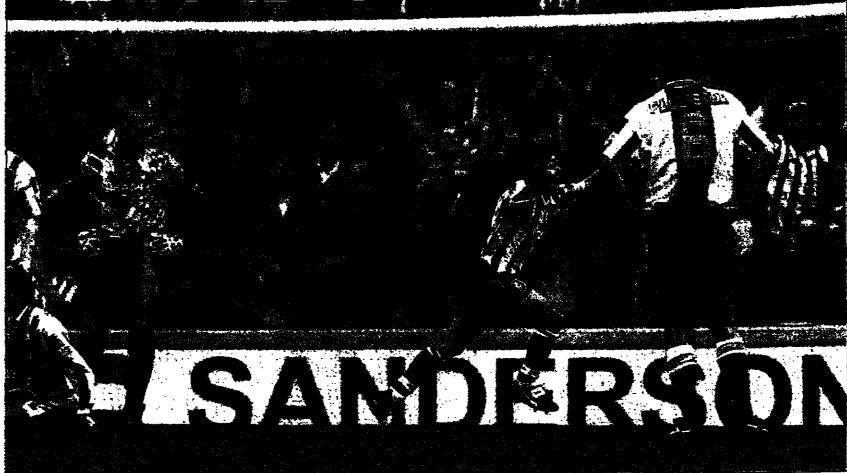
PREMIERSHIP HALF-TERM REPORT

With the busy Christmas period marking the midway point of the League campaign,



Phil Shaw

assesses the performance of the 20 teams so far and offers his finishing order come May



The shock of the season? Eyal Berkovitch celebrates after scoring the first goal in Southampton's 6-3 win over Manchester United

1st Liverpool

On their day, Roy Evans' side look irre-sistible. On other occasions, they have been shockingly ordinary, the inconsis-tency perhaps betraying their youthful-ness. Yet there have been signs lately that the could be I warrond's season. that this could be Liverpool's season. Stan Collymore's return has both en-hanced their capacity for improvisation and increased their scoring potential, relieving the bur-den on Steve McManaman and Robbie Fowler respec-tively. Question marks remain against John Barnes' staying power and Nell Ruddock's lack of mobility. But white counting on Collymore could be a dublock strategy Stan Collymore's return has both en-While counting on Collymore could be a dublous strates the prospect of a championship medal can concentrate even the most mercurial of minds. STAR PUPIL Robbie Fowler MUST DO BETTER: Neil Ruddock

2nd Arsenal

Arsène Wenger's impact at Highbury Assers wengers impact at highbury has been represented as a revolution, with Patrick Vieira the symbol of a fusion of Continental technique and British bottle. Equally, though, their success so far can be viewed as a triumph of the old values: the last stand, perhans of mainstave from the Graham era haps of mainstays from the Graham era such as their redoubtable back five. Veteran status can be a virtue when chasing championships (as with Leeds' over-30s five seasons ago), but one wonders whether Arsenal's challenge could survive the prolonged absence Arsenar's chailenge could survive the prolonged absence of David Seaman. Or whether they rely too much on lan Wright for goals. Then again, Wenger may surprise his rivals with another, crucial European coup.

STAR PUPIL: Patrick Vieira

MUST DO BETTER: David Platt

3rd Manchester United

Writing off a team containing the talera's of how Kearle, David Beck-hern and Ryan Giggs is a risky fursiness. United did the Double last season after appearing to he ness. United did the Double last
season after appearing to be out of
contentian, and Alex Ferguson has
moriel to burn. That said, the failure to
moriel to burn. That said, the failure to
finist off sides like Middlesbrough and
West Ham makes the Newcastle debacle look symptometic of a deeper malaise. Eric Cantona has been senmetic of a deeper malaise. Eric Cantona has been senmetic of a deeper malaise. Eric Cantona has been senmetic of a deeper malaise. Eric Cantona has been senmetic of a deeper malaise. Eric Cantona has been senmetic of a deeper malaise. Eric Cantona
a leader or a defender, and Keane is to often injured or
suspended. Ole Gunhar Soksiger has outshone more,
vaunted summer buys, but Ferguson needs a striker in
the Mark Hughes mould if the champions are to
rediscover their rhythm.

STAR PUPPL
David Beckham
MIST DO BETTER: Eric Cantona

4th Newcastle United

Was the 5-0 mauling of Manchester United a cathartic one-off or a demonunied a carriand one-on or a demonstration of Newcastle's true capabilities? The longer the season goes on, the more it looks like the former. They the more it looks like the former. They still defend poorly as a team, a deficiency Mark Lawrenson has his work cut out to rectify. And despite Kevin Keegan's vest outlay, the creative onus continues to fall too heavily on the 35-year-old Peter Beardsley. The sheer power and single-mindedness of Alan Shearer and Les Fertifinand has massied the fact that they are not iriaal power and single-mindedness of Alan Shearer and Les Ferdinand has masked the fact that they are not ideal partners, and also means they can never be dismissed lightly. The FA or Uefa Cup look better bets, but will that be good enough for Sir John Hall?

STAR PUPE: David Batty.

MUST DO BETTER: Faustino Asprille

5th Everton

One of the many sides who need to ally greater cunning to midfield running, Joe Royle being convinced that the era of the playmaker is past. Possibly still too hit-and-miss to be title contenders, a falling highlighted by Durican Ferguson's recurrent fitness problems and Andrei Kanchelskis' penchant for looking a world beater one week and brainless the next. Nick Barmby's intelligent runs have made them less fixated with erguson's aerial prowess, while Gary Speed's goals have gone some way towards vindicating their manager's view that he was a genuine talent waiting to be redeemed, but Everton remain short of quality in STAR PUPIL: Da MUST DO BETTER: Duncan Ferguson

6th Aston Villa

Fourth last season, Villa are again up with the pack despite falling to hit the heights of their Coca-Cola Cup taumph. After losing Gary Charles and Paul McGrath, they then saw Mark, Bosnich and Gareth Southgate become long term absentees. They have come long-term absentions. They have emerged unbowed, suggesting a well-coached unit whose whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Brian Little's interest in Stan Collymore revealed an awareness that Dwight Yorke needs a better vealed an awareness that Dwight Yorke needs as partner than Savo Milosevic. If Newcastle could be

persuaded to sell them Les Ferdinand - Little's origina target before signing the Serb - Villa could yet be dark MUST DO BETTER: Savo Milosavic

7th Tottenham Hotspur

Defeat at Arsenal plus a battering at Bolton, around which time Teddy Sheringham bemoaned the lack of top-class signings, may come to be seen as a turning point for Spurs. They promptly bought Steffen Iversen and John Scales and took four points of County and Logic Scales arrival at Coverity and Leeds, Scales' arrival, along with the growing maturity of Sol Campbell, means the perennial shortfall in commanding centre-backs is no more. I bersen, though raw, may have more in common with Jurgen Kilnsmann than hair colors or other transports. Jurgen Klinsmann than hair colour or shirt number. A fit Damen Anderton would give them some of the swagger normally associated with White Hart Lane. In the meantime, an FA Cup run and a respectable finish should be STAR PUPIL: Soi Campbell

8th Wimbledon

The Dons' run since losing the first three was staggering and owed more to good coaching than any long-ball Ito good coaching than-any long-ball game. Joe Kinnear, manager of the half year, has built a youthful side bursting with pace and athleticism. The underdog spirit remains a factor, but there are also pockets of class. Chris Peny is arguably more deserving of England recognition at cenguably more deserving of England recognition at cengual recognition tre-back than Dominic Matter; Robbie carie is the division's finest uncapped player, while Marcus Gayle and Efan Ekoku make the best defenders look sluggish. While they remain an indictment of their wealthy brethen, injuries could expose a lack of resources. Some tailing-off may be inevitable, but the Coca-Cola Cup should reward their efforts.

STAR PUPIL: Chris Perry MUST DO BETTER: Vinnie Jones

9th Chelsea

Surrenders at Leeds and Sunderland, so soon after victory at Old Trafford, suggested scepticism about the wisdom of grating Italian football on to the English game. Unfair: Gianluca Vialli and Gianfranco Zola certainly have the requisite appetite for the tray, even if the same could not always be said of Roberto Ut Matteo, Visits problem has been one or incompatibility with Mark Hughes, while Zola's class has shone through despite his team's problems. These currently centre on stack defending, weak goalkeeping and Ruud Gullit's frequent absences. If he plays more, theleas have the quality to finish higher than under

of Roberto Di Matteo. Vialli's problem has been one of Glenn Hoddie.
STAR PUPIL: Steve Clarke
MUST DO BETTER: Roberto Di Matteo

10th Blackburn Rovers

Jack Walker's coup in securing the services of Sven Goran Eriksson is services of Sven Goran Eriksson is clearly inspired by Arsène Wenger's impact at Highbury. In the meantime the caretaker manager, Tony Parkes, is holding the fort admirably. Blackbum's demolition of Liverpool provided instant proof of the esteem in

L. 4 fiaΩ . . . which the players hold him, and also of his tactical which the players hold him, and also of his tactical awareness. More recently, Parkes showed a ruthless streak by replacing Tim Flowers with Shay Given. Their prospects of maintaining upward mobility depend to some extent on whether the likes of Jeson Wilcox and the revitalised Chris Sutton avoid the treatment table, but given an even break with injuries Eriksson's inheritance should be healthy. tance should be healthy.

STAR PUPIL: Chris Sutton MUST DO BETTER: Yorgos Donis

11 Sheffield Wednesday

Maximum points from the first four games was followed by a fallow perform, including a nightmare in orange at Everton when they resembled Blackpool rather than the Netherlands. Victory at Artifield, achieved by executing David Pleat's typically matter from same plan, pointed to a executing David Pleat's typically meticulous game plan, pointed to a meticulous game plan, pointed to a brighter second half of the season. Morale seems better than under Trevor Francis, and in Kevin Pressman and Des Weilker they have the personnel to keep the and Des Weilker they have the personnel to keep the goals against total in check. Scoring is proving more problematic. Richie Humphreys fell away after a sturning start, Andy Boothi looks strong but slow, and ning start, Andy Boothi looks strong but slow, and the clever Benito Carbone; an exotic butterfly in the bleak mid-winter.

bleak mid-winter.
STAR PUPIL: Des Walker
MUST DO BETTER: Mark Pembridge

12th Leeds United

Nothing illustrates Leeds' decline better than the comparison between the championship-winning midfield of '92 and today's snarling scufflers. Having decided Howard Wilkinson's time was up, they new owners went, conservatively, for George Graham. There is a virtue of defensive efficiency, with the end (staying up) no doubt seen as justifying the means. There is a snag, however: grinding out results is all very well but creates a poor impression for prospective recruits. No wonder Graham is having trouble spending his transfer kitty. Tony Yeboah could only improve matters, but without Gary McAllister's supply line he might end up a lost soul like lan Rush.

STAR PUPIL: Nigel Martyn MUST DO BETTER: Lee Sharpe

14th Derby County A CONTRACTOR OF THE SECOND SEC

Why spend £18m to be bottom, Coventry fans wondered before Ron Atkinson stood down, when you have always achieved a similar position for pearurs? The board agreed, and there has been an improvement since the reshuffle. Gordon Strachan's first buy, the mindelher Dar. since the reshuffle. Gordon Strachan's first buy, the quicksilver Darren Huckerby from Newcastle, could
be crucial in '97. Signs are that he will help Dion
Dublin score more, though the gant target man is currently occupying a defensive role and striking at setpreces. Strachan has to find a balance between the
pragmatic approach he knew under Howard Wilkinson
and the cavaller style of Atkinson. If he succeeds, the
Sky Blues have the experience to defy the doorn-laden
STAR PUPIL: Darren Huckerby STAR PUPIL: Darren Huckerby MUST DO BETTER: Noel Whelan

lay for Paul McGrath, currently playing as well as any defender in the land alongside Igor Stimac. Throw in the pace and finishing of Dean Sturridge, from which Arsenal suffered most of Dean Sturridge, from which Arsenal suffered most operacularly, and that should constitute enough of a backbone to beat the drop. But the run-in is likely to be as tight and tense as in their promotion campaign. Smith's sides like to push the ball about, a style unsuited to heavier pitches. An eventful final chapter backons in the Baseball Ground story.

STAR PUPIL: Paul McGrath

MUST DO BETTER: Christian Dailly

15th West Ham United What a strange hybrid West Ham

have become. Essex man's favourite team, the club who fielded 11 Englishmen in the 1964 FA Cup final, isomen in the 1904 PA Cup tinal, are blending all manner of overseas talents with the home-grown variety personified by Rio Ferdinand and Frank Lampard Jnr. Hany Redknapp has had more success firefing sood Frank Lampard Jnr. Harry Redkriapp
has had more success finding good
defenders abroad than attackers. Florin Raducioiu's
goal against Manchester United gave a gimpse of his
lian Dicks, has more of the qualities to see them to
safety. Perhaps ominously, David Mellor's favourite fullback is joint top scorer. Lack of scoring power could
STAR PUPE; Slaven Bilic
MUST DO BETTER: Iain Dowie

16th Sunderland

Peter Reid took Sunderland to promotion on a since string. Their flotation on the stock market today means he now has £7m to spend on players to make sure they are still in the Premiership by the time they vacate Roker Park for Monkwearmouth next season. A regular sorer mast be his main priority. When Michael Bridges scored twice in 20 Michael Bridges scored twice in 20 michael Bridges scored twice in 20 minutes as a substitute at Everton recently, his first goals minutes as a substitute at Everton recently, his first goals

minutes as a substitute at Everton recently, his first goals of the season instartity made him top scorer. Having shelled out for Tony Coton, and then lost him to injury, shell may be reluctant to invest in another goalkeeper. But it must be doubtful whether Lionel Perez, the maverlick Frenchman whose cult status is out of proportion with his technique, is reliable enough for what looks certain to be a rough ide unless they but well and soon.

STAR PUPIL: Kevin Ball

MUST DO BETTER: Lionel Perez

20th Middlesbrough

The Riverside is going to end up as the smartest stadium in the Nationwide League unless dramatic steps are taken to stop Boro's decline.

Twenty-three defeats and only seven wenty-mree dereats and only seven
wins in 41 games is evidence of deeprooted problems. Blaming the Braziliars is too simplistic - the few wins they have managed
with Fahrbin Ravanelli - vot Rosan Robson dres have to were inspired by Emerson and Juninho in collaboration with Fabrizio Ravanelli — yet Bryan Robson does have to accept responsibility. His sides, with their journeymen detanders and jet-set attackers, resemble a dray horse crossed with a thoroughbred. Where there is Ravanelli there is always hope, but one has to ask whether the vast salary the Italian receives might militate against as a flawed utopian experiment. Steve Gibson, the visionary who financed it all, deserves better.

MUST DO BETTER: Emerson

Top scorers Manchester Utd: 37 Meanest defence Aston Villa: 15 conceded Draw specialists Sheffield Wednesday: 8 Best home record Arsenal P9 W6 D3 L0 Worst home record Notim Forest P9 W1 D5 L3

Best away record Liverpool P8 W5 D1 L2 Worst away record Southampton P9 W0 D2 L7 Longest anbeaten run Wimbledon: 14 Longest without a win Nottingham Forest: 16

Bad behaviour 614 bookings 20 sending-off

Most sendings-off Sunderland 4 Most bookings Chelsea 45 Highest crowd

55,210 (Man Utd v Arsenal) Lowest crowd 8,572 (Wimbledon Southampton)

Research: Jon Brodkin

17th Leicester City

being everyone's up to go straight back down. With an estude manager in Martin O'Neill and several promising young players, notably Emile Heskey, they perhaps even surprised themselves by edging towards midtable in late autumn. Sustaining their position is likely to be harder because their squad is as short of depth as O'Neill is strapped for serious money. It is also asking a lot of Heskey, who is not 19 until next month, to maintain his storming start. The sheer spirit and run-ning power of midfielders like Scott Taylor, Neil Lennon and Muzzy tzet should just see them through as less cohesive clubs with fatter wallets and higher expecta-

tions take a tumble. STAR PUPEL Emile Heskey MUST DO BETTER: Kevin Pools

Leicester have derived solidarity from

Jim Smith secured the best buy of last summer, pound for pound, by paying £900,000 for the Croat schemer Aljosa Asanovic. He has since repeated the trick with a £200,000 out-lay for Paul McGrath, currently

18th Southampton

Early in the season it was as if Graeme Sourcess had been born again. He waxed philosophical about past mistakes and revealed plans for a future featuring purer footballing values. For a while it all came together, the Saints hitting Manchester United for six. Soon, though, opponents worked out the wiles of Eyal Berkovitch, his gifted Israeli import. Matthew Le Tissier was injured and suddenly the threadbare quality of the was injured and suddenly the threadbare quality of the supporting cast was exposed. The cut-price foreigners are proficient enough, but it was significant that Norway's Claus Lundekvam had to switch from defence to midfield because his Engish was so poor that he could not be trusted to carry out basic instructions. It was a more familiar Souness who said eatier this month: "We must be more ruthless... show our teeth more." The coming months may not be for the squeamish.

STAR PUPIL: Eyal Berkovitch
MUST DO BETTER: Richard Dryden

19th Nottingham Forest

This time no one is saying Forest are too good to go down. In 1992-93 Brian Clough had the purchasing power that might have staved off relegation but appeared to be staved off relegation but appeared to be gipped by inertia; Frank Clark had nothing to spend once the takeover talks began. Whereas Clough hung on well past his sell-by data, Clark has gone just in time theoretically for his successor to save them. There may be too much wheeler-dealing to do in a short time span; assuming that a change of ownership would release funds, but a new manager can often work wonrelease funds, but a new manager can often work wonders simply by reviving confidence. The likes of Mark Crossley, Deen Saunders, Scot Germalli and Ian Woan, have been under achieving so their prospects may hinge on Stuart Pearce maintaining his bright start in the man-management/motivation department. MUST DO BETTER Dean Saunders

explained to her that in rugby you could support a club but still applaud the opposing side. This did not happen often in football

Almost 20 years ago I took my daughter, who was then in her early eens, to see Llanelli play London Weish at Old Deer Park, It was, I need hardly say, at her request, for I do not believe in imposing rugby on anybody, least of all on adolescent girls. An old friend of mine was there as well, and the three of us sat together.

The Llanelli backs performed some nifty move and one of them scored a try. My friend and I clapped politely saying: "Well done," or something along similar lines. "Why are you both clapping?" my

daughter asked.
"Because they scored quite a good try," I said. "But you're supposed to be supporting London Weish," she replied, "not the other lot."

I explained to her that in rugby you could support a club but still applaud the opposing side when they did something praiseworthy. This, I went on, did not happen, or not often, in football, in whose culture her friends had presumably been brought up.
The crowd at Straddy Park,

anelli's home ground - only 10 miles or so from where her grand-parents lived - were, I continued. warming to my theme, famous for applauding the visiting side if they per-

She was, I seem to remember, unconvinced by my short excursion in search of that elusive substance, the spirit of Rugby Union Football. If you supported a team, you sup-ported a team, and that team's op-

ponents were your enemies. This way of looking at things had been creeping into rugby well before this season. But with the game being made professional it has become more pronounced. Certain clubs have helped it on its way. Richmond are a case in point.

Before the match at Richmond pop music is played over the londspeak ers. Nothing wrong with that Harlequins do the same at The Stoop-old Adrian Stoop must be revolving in his grave at several revolutions per minute - and Wasps do it when they are playing at Loftus Road. I should prefer myself a selection of rousing Sousa marches played, preferably live, by a brass or silver band. But I am get-ting on a bit now, and tastes differ.



What is objectionable is not what goes on before a match but what happens during it, at Richmond at any rate. If the home side score a try, a short but loud burst of Gary Glitter comes over the loudspeakers. If a

conversion or penalty is kicked successfully, we are entertained to a snatch of Roy Orbison's It's Over.

This is quite witty, I suppose, in a silly sort of way. But the performances, whether of Gary Gliner or of Roy Orbison, are put on only when Richmond score. The visiting team might just as well not be pre-sent at all; they are non-persons.

This policy of non-recognition seemed particularly strange when Richmond played London Scottish earlier in the season. Theoretically, in terms of fixture lists, it may have been a home match. But as the two clubs share the Richmond Athletic ground, all contests between Richmond and London Scottish are home games for both sides.

I wonder, incidentally, how much longer this arrangement can continue if Richmond are promoted to the First Division. On this occasion Scottish had tried to match Gary Glitter in the stand with some live pipers on the touchline. Just as it was on the

field, it was no contest. Richmond are one of my favourite clubs. They play not only entertaining but powerful rugby. They were unlucky to lose to Sale, to judge by the press reports and by the long ex-cerpt shown on Rugby Special. [Is there, I wonder, any point at all in showing all those short excerpts?] Brian Moore, a more peaceful citizen than he often likes to give the impression of being, was even more unlucky to be sent off.

I take credit for spotting the qualities of the revivilied Allan Bateman some weeks before the Welsh selectors did, I am delighted that Scott Quinnell has, through the intercession of a beneficent businessman, Geoff Cartwright, been able to resolve his differences with the Welsh Rughy Union. I hope his brother Craig is picked for Wales as well. And I am pleased that Chris Clark, who used to be an England prospect, put in an appearance at

loose-head prop last Saturday. In short, I wish the club well. I have nothing against Richmond. Long may they prosper, at any rate until the money runs out. I only wish they would now give us a rest from Roy Orbison and Gary Glitter.

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England needed to take more risks that bind

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. . d (50 1400) DEREK PRINGLE reports from Harare

Wisden is specific about them, yet anyone who saw Sunday's last over from an England perspective will know that wides are far more emotive than the chapter and verse given by cricket's bible.

I hesitate to say black and white, because, like most sport that uses an on-field enforcement agency like umpires, interpretation is everything. For most it was the fourth ball of that final over, the one immediately after Nick Knight's towering six had brought England within five runs of victory, that caused the greatest ire, forcing even the placed to emit bellows of rage in front of their television screens.

It was not the only ball Knight, a left-hander had not been able to reach, fired as it was two feet wide of his off stump. And yet - perhaps expecting ing down the leg side.

Heath Streak to fire it down the leg side - had the hatsman not shuffled ever so slightly to leg. In Law 25, the relevant part

states that a ball is wide when the bowler bowls the ball so high over, or so wide of the wicket that, in the opinion of the umpire, it passes out of reach of the striker". It is not a wide if "the striker, by moving from his guard position, causes the ball to pass out of his reach, or the striker moves and thus brings the ball within his reach". As it was, England perhaps should have risked running byes to the keeper as balls fired either side of the stumps are

never easy to collect cleanly. It was a tactic Streak had been using for at least four overs to slow England's run-rate and one he admitted he was lucky to get away with. He would never have been able to do it without penalty in one-day cricket. which is far stricter on balls pass-

Wells signs for Kent

Alan Wells, 35, joined Kent yesterday on a five-year contract, with the 37-year-old batsman Neil Taylor moving in the op-

Wells, who spent 16 years cantain eight weeks ago and this led him to making the decision to finish his career with another county, with his release granted last month. "The recent tract. Derbyshire refused to be disappointed about last Sunexodus of players from Hove is

The former Sussex captain, ture," Wells said. "The captaincy issue initiated all the upheaval. It is time for me now to look for-

ward and not back." maining two years of his consay how much Adams had been day's outcome. But they cannot

describing short-pitched balls rising over shoulder height as wides - are to be introduced to first-class matches in England, when as of next year, all wides will cost the bowler two runs, instead of the current penalty of one.
Although there is nothing

One-day laws - but not those

wrong with upping the penalty wides are in any case a far greater breach of control than a no-ball which is also worth two runs - the change is likely to remove the dimension of unpredictability which made last week's Test match such a thrilling spectacle. Over short chases, like the one England had on Sunday (37 overs), only the batting team has a realistic chance of winning. Had the game been subject to one-day restrictions, Zimbabwe would have been virtually powerless to stop England cruising to victory.

As it is, they can now regroup and hope to beat England here, which more or less justifies their spoiling tactics, although not their excessiveness. That should have been moderated by

In similar circumstances, England would and have done the ter Cork had persistently fired the

same. In fact, it was during last winter's fourth Test against South Africa in Port Elizabeth that Dominic Cork was called for a wide that wasn't, a decision the

England have every right to

Ayr find the ties

ice hockey STEVE PINDER

There was plenty to keep cold hands warm and chilled blood racing as the pre-Christmas Superleague games saw two matches go to overtime without breaking the draw and two others won by just one goal. Both tied matches featured

Ayr Scottish Eagles, who started the weekend at Manchester Storm in front of a 10,000 crowd. Eagles led 4-2 at the end of the second but Storm, second bottom, decided attack was the best form of defence and goals by Shawn Byram, Mike Morin and David Smith saw them lead 5-4. With 35 seconds left, Ayr

pulled keeper Colum Cavilla for the extra player, a tactic that can either force a goal or give an empty-net goal away. This time it worked, Matt Hoffman tying the game 5-5. Sudden-death overtime remained scoreless, a fair reflection on the game.

The next day Ayr welcomed Nottingham Panthers, fresh from thrashing Sheffield Steelers 6-2 with a 4-0 final period. Eagles took a 3-0 lead by the end of the second but Jeff Hoad scored twice in 10 minutes to make the score 3-2. With two minutes left. Neil Morgan tied the match without, again, overtime producing the deciding goal.

Basingstoke Bison met

Bracknell Bees for the third time in the league and duly recorded their third win, 4-3, over the bottom club who had three key olayers missing. Bison effectively won the match in the first, Chris Maybury and Steve Brown both scoring on the power play.



ed up: Brad Johnson, Minnesota's quarterback, is sacked by Green Bay's Sean Jones on Sunday Photograph; AP



AFC trio look to be making up the numbers

American football

MATT TENCH

Three AFC teams clinched their places in the play-offs but none of them did it in such a way on Sunday to suggest they will be around for very long.

dianapolis Colts, who qualified for the post-season despite being beaten 31-24 by Cincinnati.

Jeff Blake found for McGee for the winning touchdown in the fourth quarter but Kansas City's loss to Buffalo meant the defeat was immaterial: the Colts travel to Pittsburgh on Sunday but will do so as heavy underdogs.

Bills were not much better. In what was virtually a play-off game with the Chiefs - the winners would be definitely through, the losers probably out both sides paraded the full range of their attacking limitations. It was close, if jaw-droppingly dull, for three quarters before Jim Kelly threw for a couple of scores and the Bills

The Chiefs did not help their cause with a game plan that was not so much conservative as neo-Nazi. Marty Schottenheimer their head mach has lost all confidence in quarterback Steve Bono, and until his side were behind he had virtually ruled out the penetrating pass as an offensive option. No wonder they were unable to find the end

The Bills now play host to the Jacksonville Jaguars, whose 19-17 defeat of the Atlanta Fai-

cons was, if anything, even less convincing. The Jags, in their second season in the league, dominated much of the game but allowed the hapless Falcons to rally in the fourth quarter. They would have lost had the Falcons' Morten Andersen, the league's best kicker, converted a 30-yard field goal with four

seconds left. Even a Falcons victory was unlikely to have saved the job of their head coach, June Jones. who, with Dan Reeves of the New York Giants, yesterday became the latest victims of the unfestive tradition of head coach culling. The two Riches, Kotite of the Jets and Brooks of St Louis, were first to go at the weekend and it will be a surprise if Detroit's Wayne Fontes, Oak-land's Mike White and New Orleans' Rick Venturi (who was only a temporary appointment)

make it to the new year. Indeed, there is every indication that it could be a bumper crop for there is also talk of a change at Kansas City despite Schottenheimer's extraordinary record of success, while Minnesota and Dallas may be considering their options once their interest in the play-offs is over.

Meanwhile, the prize for leastseasonal greeting goes to Chica-go's Alonzo Spellman after his side's 34-19 loss at Tampa Bay. "That team's awful," he said of the victors. "Terrible, they know fluke. Fluke. Can you spell that?"

BOXING DAY FIXTURE GUIDE

Football FA CARLING PRE ot v Let IDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

han v Birninghan (1.0) _____ tsmouth v Swindon hen's Park Rangers v Nervich (12.0) ___ ading v West Bromeich thend v Charlton (12.0) ____ SECOND DIVISION Blackpool of Burniery (12.0) Brastol City v Shriwsbuty (12.0) Brastol City v Shriwsbuty (12.0) Brastol City v Shriwsbuty (12.0) Chesty-Reid v Rotherthans (12.0) Chillingham v Lation (12.0) [Illineal v Peterborough (12.0)

ford v Notts County (12.0) .

Fethan v Exeter (12.0) _ Hereford v Swanson____ Hud v Lincoln____ BELL'S SCOTTISK PREMIER DIVISION

First Division East Fife v St Mirren (2.0) . Morton v Clyt Partick v Dud

ASTROMENT & ROBERCHICE: Attraction v Mac-cleating: Famborough v Batty Gateshood v Staffordige; Helizo v Northwich; Hoyes v Welving; Amorring v Rich on & Dempinds: Nationalistics of Broating on (11, 30); on & Dempinds: Nationalistics of Broating over 1, 1300; nont v Morecembe: Stayengle v Stough: Incstryf: Welling v Douer (11.30). Sames v Yanden; (11.30; Yeese v Doord Cav. Plant Distinct Reconglishe v Augustus; Berkermann V Bell Lin (11.30; Carrier Island v Billeton; Berkermann V Bell Lin (11.30; Carrier Island v Billeton; Lin (11.30; Carrier Island v Billeton; Lin (11.30; Alfricon v Doordon; Villander, V Harriston (11.30; Alfricon v Doordon; Lin (11.30; Alfricon v Lin (11.30; Alfric

nges (11.0), Hertdard v Handor (11.10); n & Evell; Teng v Southaut, Weadstone of Wingstie & Finchley v Ningsbury (1.0). DRD LifeGull: Pressier Divisions Acon er Bridge, Advisor Leavit Byth v Gusse lay v Irroseley; Erriey v Fricisley; Canad v Busson Lift; Hyde Utd v Burdon; Lar er Messen Consier Steromass v Beither er Messen Consier Steromass v Beither

cry foul.

1 Arsenai v Aston Villa . 2 Cheises v Shaffield Wed 7 Manchester Utd v Leeds

Newport (IOW) (2.15); Yata v Chrinoster (13.50), URBET SUBSERY COUNTY LEARUE First Whilein (11.0); Anundel y Pagrenz Eastbourne Town v Languer Spots; Hastocke v Barges Het Horstern WhitA v Motor Brigner v Hastelwery, Sabdeen v Preschwen & Caleconthet Selecy v Portisch Southment Storekarr; Hintel Entiglies v Ustracott; Matghansk v Mile Osk.

111.30); Chathar (11.0); Furnass v stone (11.0).

CLL.O.; Imertin v Empre CLL.30; Imertin v Empre CLL.30; Imertin V Empre Colorities Librarie First Ordelos: Bhackpor Revers v Devent; Basecoph v Broate; Charleman v Arberon, Collecter; Charleman v Arberon, Collecter; Colorido v Passandale; Estatood V Harbey v Neurosain Stom L.D.(*Colory Narris Find v Alphovor) (12.00; Pastoth v Holer Old Boys; CLL5); St Helers v Marine Road; Trafford v Mondroy; Vouchall GAI v Prescot.

Boumprouth FC (21.30).
WITERLOW, EXPRESS MEDIAAND ALLMANCE (21.0):
Boundt v Pelesit; Bridgnorth v Steinet; Chinatown v
Boldment; Hinchiny Advictor v Bowelt; Knyparsley v Ro-

loa: Shidon v v loabugh (11.30). page vojctom v Arrom (1224). 1999-HOFF Brish LEAGLE Premier Divinism Ards v Abonelis, Crusaders v Caleraira; Garmon v Porta-num Lindido v Glandorn, First Divinism Ballymens 1887 Lindido v Glandorn, First Divinism Ballymens

v Omigis, Cohocky Billycara, san y Burgis. LEAGUE OF Yeat Ess: Bangyr City v Carmidé Bay, Bar-ny Josev y Inter Cable 74 Eastel 111.30; Carminten y Baton Feory, Carmath's Quay v Unsterniteach, Babe-Vales o Carminton, Find y Holysell (L.Dr.), Messen v Carm-Vales o Carminton, Tayl v Holysell (L.Dr.), Messen v Carm-Sectionaches v Castrairton, Rhyl v Coney, Wateh-

PREINDLY MATCHES; Butley v Develousy (12.0); Hust-desdield v Neghiey (1.0); Leets v Haller (11.30); Wigan v St Halans (3.0); Workington v Castale (11.0);

Rugby Union CLUP BATCHES: Bridgend v Moceley (2.30); Harde-pool Revers v Wast Hardespool (2.15); Hawack v Jed-Forces (2.0); Helso v Botto, 2.00; Helsov v Sale (2.0); Helsov Sele v Helsov Rock (2.0); Helsov v Sele (2.0); V Light Redusyn v Camborne (2.30); Stautodige v Dud-ley Kengsandool (2.30).

batsman, has been fined by his county for saying he wanted to claimed he was desperate to

with Sussex, was dismissed as leave the club. The 26-year-old umpire, Cyril Mitchley, took af-

Chris Adams, the Derbyshire move from the County Ground ball wide of the batsmen's legand offered to buy out the re- stump to prevent them scoring.

SPORTING DIGEST

POOLS FORECASTS

2 Chelses y Liverpool . 4 Derby v Shell Wed. 7 Southernoton v Win 8 West Ham v Notim Forest

Nationwide Football League First Division 10 Bernsley v Manchester City

12 Charlton v Wolves 13 Crystal Palace v Stok 15 Norwich v Bradford 16 Oxford Utd v Reading 19 Swindon v Grasby

Second Division 21 Brentford v Chesterfiel 23 Burnley v Gillingham 26 Notes County v Plytt

Third Division 83 Colchester v Fultram 36 Hartlenoot v Hereford 37 Lincoln v Che 38 Mansfield v Donosster Also playing (not on coupons): Rochdale v Huit; Scarborough v Brighton; Scuritorpe v

Beil's Scottish League Premier Division 40 Aberdeen v Hibernan....... 41 Celtic v Dunfermäne 42 Hearts v Motherwell .

44 Raith v Dundea Utd . First Division 46 Airdrie v Partick 47 Dundee v East Fife 48 St Mirren v Falkrik ... 48 Stirting v Greenock Morton . Five aways: Wokes, Queen's Park Rangers, Bury, Rangers, St Johnstone.

FA Carling Premierable

estrough ...

Also pleying (not on coupons): Everton Riackhism: Manchester Utd v Aston Vika

11 Bolton v Bradford 1.4 Huddersfield v Stoke 16 Oxford Utd v Grimsby 17 Port Vale v Southend 19 Swindon v QPR ...

Second Division 22 Bristol Rovers v Plym 23 Burnley v Che 26 Notes County v Bournemouth 29 Rothertam v Gillingham . 30 Shravabury v Blackpool .

33 Colchester v Levton Orient . 35 Exeter v Barnet . 36 Harriegopi v Huli ... 37 Lincoln v Wigan Also playing (not on compons): Rochdele v Hereford; Scarborough v Cambridge Utd; Scumhorpe v Chester; Swarsee v Doncast-

Ball's Scottish League 46 Dendee Utd v Abendeer 41 Dunfarmine v Raith ...

First Division 45 Faffork v Airdrie 47 Pertick v Civdebenk . Second Division

Allo playing foot on couponst: Clyde v Brechn;
Dumbarion v Stenhousemul; Hamilton v Queen
of the South; Livington v Benedic. Third Dehsless Allice v East String; Admath v Cowdenbeath; Montane v Forfer; Queen's Penk v Riber,
Ross County v Inverses Caledonian Trastle.
Feur draws: Derby v Sheffield Wednesday, Crave
v Mithwall, Notto County v Bourremouth, Hibernian v Hearts.

ilso in the souad.

NBA: Claveland 100 Utah 94; Indiana 111 Toronto 92: Chediote 102 Boston 96; Golden State 97 LA Clappers 91; Sestile 93 Dellas 79; Vancouver 91, Vieshing 87.

TOUR MATCH (Port Elizabeth, SA; final day of three): Intle 355 for 6 dec (S Gangsly 97, V Ratinor 71) and 130 for 2; Eastern Province 322. Match draws. usry, courtesy of a giant video screen to be used at The Hawthoms. 322. Match drawn.
SHEPRED SHEED (Fine) day of four); Partic:
South Australia 258 IJ A Brayetser 73, D S
Lehmann 52) and 381 for 7 IJ D Siddons 80,
GS Biswett 66, J N Gillegpe 56); Western Australia 560 for 8 dec IJ Langer 274no, D R
Martyn 104). Match drawn.

The left-hander Justin Langer has been recalled to the Australian Test team afreceiled to the Australian test team an-ter a three-year absence having scored an unbesten 274 for Western Australia in their Sheffield Shield match at the westernd. Selectors also opted for the Queensland opener Matthew Hayden to Queensanc opener Marthew Hayden to replace the injured Marthew Edilott for the third Test against the West Indies, which starts on Boung Day in Melbourne. AUSTRALA SQUAD Third Test wheat lodies, starting Thursday, Melbournel: M A Taylor (copd, M J. Hayden, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, J Lianger, M G Beren, G S Blevett, I A Healy (atd.) S K Werne, P R Reiffel, J N Glespie, G D McGrath.

Equestrianism

OLYMENA SHOW JURIPHO CHAMPIONSHIPS (Kaneington, Leadou): P and 0 Grand Prix-I Whoty (Co Nagel, Gel cleer, 23-91; 2 Pri-amos (I. Beensum, Ger) clear, 33.09; 3 San Parigrano Well; sheej (F Stoothask, Ger) cleer, 33.14; 4 Cabaro (J Lareire, Neth) cleer, 36.62. Football Pele, now Brazil's minister for sport, has ed 12 ministry officials

Birmingham have signed Birkir Kristins-son, the 32-year-old loclandic international goalkeeper, on loan from the Norwegan side SK Brann as cover for ian Bennett as the regular deputy, Stave Sutton, is expected to be out for a month after breaking a finger in training. Lucas Redebe, the Leeds midtlel in South Africa's squad to play Zambio

> TODAY'S NUMBER

The seconds that Ajax's Brazilian defender Santos was on the pitch before being sent off against PSV Eindhoven on Sunday. Substitute Santos hauled back a striker to beat the previous Dutch league record of 28

In Lusaka on 11 January. The former Leads striker Phil Masinga, now play-ing for the Italian club Salemitana, is

Manchestar United's Karel Poborsky and twerpool's Patrik Berger, who played key roles in taking their country to the Euro 96 final, have been voted joint winners of the Ceach Footballer of the Year award. or the Casch Potobaler of the Year award. Football Monthly, Britain's oldest foot-ball magazine, is in danger of going out of business. The magazine, founded over 40 years ago, has three weeks left to find a buyer or go out of existence. West Bromwich will be showing live their FA Cup third-round the against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Saturday, 4 Jan-

AVON INSURANCE COMMENTATION First Division: Wimbledon 2 Chaises 1. Laugha Cup: Postponed: Oxford Utd v Swindon. Postponed: Oxford Utd v Swindon.
SUNDAY'S LAT RESSUES: Italian Laegue:
Forentins 2 Caglan D. Dutch Lengue: NEC
Forentins 2 Caglan D. Dutch Lengue: NEC
Forentins 2 Caglan D. Dutch Lengue: NEC
Forentins 2 Caglan D. Viesses Arnhem 1; Apa:
O PSV Enchoven 2.
TRANSFERS: Paul Roberts Arbosth to Forfer; Sieb Dykstra Queen's Park Rengers to
Dundee Utd; Gary Matthews Cydebenk to
Stommer; James Hamiston Dunder to Heers;
Colin Sothedend Cydebank to Scartorough;
Lan MacFarlane Durnbarrion to Cydebank
Dersk Barnes Cydebenk to Durnbarrion;
Hartin Sectif East String to Cydebenkert.

Ice Hockey

NHL: New York Rangers 7 Fonda 3; St Louis 7 Les Angeles 4; Detroit 6 Edmonton 2; Chica-go 2 Philadelphia (crit; Calgary 7 Phoema 2, SUPPRILEARIE: Ay Sootish Eagles 3 Not-tingham Parithes 3; Cardif Devils 5 Manchester

PREMIER LEAGUE: Kingston Hawks 1 Slough Jets 5; Medway Bears 2 Guildford Fiames 4; Peterborough Pisates 2 Tellord Tigers 13; Sol-hull Blaze 5 Swindon LeaLords 2. NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Blackburn Hawks 5 Whitey Warnors 8.

POGN

DR MARTIENS MOSCONI CUP (Degen-hand; Europe 13 United States 15, (Eu-rope names first; V Facquer lost to C I Wiley O-2 (1-3, 3-5); A Richardson lost to R Grif-ts O-2 (1-3, 2-4); R O'Stateon lost to M Massey 1-2 (3-1, 1-3, 2-4); M Istationen lost to S Dastron O-1 (4-5); R Souquet br E Straktand 1-0 (3-1); O Dormann lost to S Daviton O-1 (1-3); S Davis and RO'Stateon lost to E Strak-land and C I Wiley O-1 (4-5).

Rugby League
Bradford Bulls are revwing their interest in two out-of-the-city grounds after losing patience with constant delays to the plans for an £80m Superdome at Odsal. Bradford Council recently an-David Hulme, the former Widnes and Great Britain Test player, is a target for the Super League newcomers, Salford Rads. Salford have opened negotiations with Hulme, who had a spell at Leeds lest season but is now a free agent.

St Helens have arranged a pre-season friendly against Leeds at Knowlstey Road on Friday, 24 January to luck off at 7.30. With less than 1,000 males to the finish of the second leg from Rio de Janeiro to Wellington, Mike Golding (Group 4)

last night held a 40-mile lead over Andy Hindley (Save the Children) as Simon Walker (Toshiba) skipped to a 125-mile in the BT Challenge strung out over 700 miles of the South Pacific. One of them, Concert, is motor sailing under jury ng to the Chatham Islands after being dis-masted. Suffering further problems is Merlyn Owen (Global Teamwork), who has had to use rope and a martin spike

The Australians, Adnan Radiey, Ryan Mitchell, Geoff Huegill and Michael Kim, clocked a world short-course record of 3min 30.91sec for the 4x100 metres

Richard Lewis, the director for national training and coaching at the Lawn Tennis Association, and John Feever, director of events and sournaments, will be a second to the coaching at the coaching and the coaching at the c rector of the international and processonal terms division. This means he will not only maintain his present duties but will also be responsible for the overall policy and strategy for the professional game and the preparation and coordination of budgets and reports. Feaver, who has been mainly concerned

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Atherton

blows

another

fuse

Michael Atherton has been advised by a leading psychologist

to give up newspapers for the

time being - for the good of his mental health.

angry exchange with a broadsheet

newspaper journalist after the his-

toric first Test against Zimhabwe

in Bulawayo, which ended in a draw with the scores tied. Ather-

ton was apparently upset about what has been written and said

about his form and England's prospects. He lost his temper af-

ter a question relating to the

bowling tactics of the the newest

and lowest-ranked Test nation,

particularly the use of wides on the dramatic last day. Atherton has fallen out with the media before, apologising

last year to a Pakistan journal-

ist he had labelled a buffoon.

However, doubts about Atherton being up to the task of

leading England were dismissed by the psychologist Professor Cary Cooper. "I think Atherton is good for England. People should realise he is still a young

man and the pressure on him is enormous," said Professor

Cooper, who is based at Man-

chester's University of Science

their country, the majority are very wound up. I don't think

there is anything in his nature that should worry us. It is safer

to hit out at journalists than your

team-mates, and he is normally such a cool customer.

Lancashire lad, who usually

stays in control of his emotions.

My advice to him would be not

to read the newspapers until the

Test series is over. All he should

worry about is getting on with the matches in hand and con-

centrating on what is good for

To me he is a typical stoical

"When people are playing for

and Technology, said.

The England captain had an

Cricket

Yorke tips Villa for tilt at the title

Football

Dwight Yorke thinks he and Aston Villa have found their form at just the right moment for the club to launch a serious assault on the Premier League title.

Yorke scored 25 goals last season but he failed to find the net in the opening nine games of the current campaign as Villa's fairly slow start to the season included their exit from the Uefa Cup at the hands of the part-timers of Helsingborg.

The Trinidad and Tobago international has put that disappointment and his country's early World Cup exit behind him with 11 goals in the last 12 games to help push Villa into the Premiership top four. Yorke thinks he and Villa are

coming right in time for a threeweck schedule that will take in matches against Chelsea, Arse-nal, Manchester United, Newcastle and Liverpool. "There was a lot of expectation on me to produce from the start of this season after the standards I set last year and that's better than people not being interested in or not talking about you," he said.

"Everybody was looking towards me to produce week in and week out, which is fair enough, but the goals just wouldn't come at first. There were a couple of efforts which might have been over the line. like the one at Everton, but they weren't given and I was also hitting the woodwork. The ball just wouldn't go in the net.

"You get frustrating spells like that from time to time as a striker but I never lost faith in my ability. I knew if I kept working hard things would change and the staff and lads kept encouraging me. The hat-trick at Newcastle was a tremendous boost to me, even though it was disappointing to lose, and things have gone on from there in

terms of the goals going in." Yorke, who scored twice in the 5-0 demolition of Wimbledon on Sunday, is under no illusions as to the importance of the run of games facing Villa. We are coming into an exciting period where we play all the big boys. We know we haven't showed a lot of character in



The Chilean Marcelo Salas (right) shields the ball from Independiente's Jorge Martinez during River Plate's 3-1 defeat in an Argentinian league match

played to our full potential but this will be the time to come good," he said. "It definitely is a crucial spell for us. This could be a make or break time but if we get through this spell in decent shape then we will be in

with a heck of a good chance.
"The good thing for us is that, although we didn't start the

clawing our way back into the tithe hunt. We've got the consis-tency factor back into our play and the confidence has also started to flow back. I don't see any reason why we shouldn't be thinking of winning the cham-pionship. The players here all know what they are capable of."

Until they met Villa, Wimbledon had been bowling along towards the top themselves,

thanks to an unbeaten run of 19 run," he said. "I'm disappoint-matches. Their manager, Joe ed it ended but we'll still enjoy matches. Their manager, Joe Kinnear, is maintaining an upbeat approach and challenged his players to put what he described as a "blip" behind them by bouncing back against West

Ham on Boxing Day.
"I certainly won't be overreacting to what happened on Sunday. The trick is to bounce back and to get on to another

Christmas because it's been a fantastic sequence of results."

Bert Paton, the Dunfermline manager, began his Christmas having to defend Marc Millar as the player faces up to a fivematch suspension. Millar will miss almost the whole of January, but Paton said: "I don't

not that kind of player."

Millar, who scored a penalty in a 3-2 victory at Motherwell over the weekend, also picked up a booking that took him over the next disciplinary threshold and he will serve a five-match ban from 4 January.

Millar will miss games against Aberdeen (away), Dundee Unit-

Photograph: Reuter ciplinary record because he's the Scottish Cup third round and the rearranged home fixture with Celtic on 29 January.

"It is a blow to us because Marc has been playing well in recent weeks," Paton said. "We were playing him at the back and that was landing him in trouble with tackles. But in midfield he's done better and hadn't been booked for sever-

a way out of this situation."

was available yesterday to com-

ment on Ravanelli's remarks.

brough had increased their of-

ey for Nadal, but I don't know

if Barcelona will accept the of-

former England manager said.

himself and England. England's squad, apart from the assistant coach, John Emburey, and the off-spinner Robert Croft, enjoyed a day trip to the Victoria Falls yesterday. They plan to practise both today and on Christmas Day morning in preparation for the second Test

in Harare on Boxing Day. "Now we have to regroup and There has been some confusion about whether it was Nick Knight, rather than Darren Gough, who was run out off the No one at Middlesbrough final ball of Sunday's dramatic run chase. The umpires, Ian Robinson and Steve Dunne. The Barcelona coach, Bobby Robson, has said Middlesthought Knight was out, but the International Cricket Council defender Miguel Angel Nadal. "They've offered a lot of monsisted it was Gough. The England scorer, Malcolm Ashton, has Gough run out in his book, but is waiting for further evidence befer, or if it interests Nadal." the

fore making a final decision. Test match verdict, page 19

Arsenal's Wright appeal

ADAM SZRETER

Arsenal have submitted an official complaint to the Football Association about lan Wright's sending-off at Nottingham For-

The club has made a claim of "wrongful dismissal" to Lan-caster Gate. The referee, Stepben Ronaldo 141 and Shearer 107. Lodge and his assistant, John Holbrook, will now be sent a video of the incident, in which the Arsenal striker barged into the Forest defender Nikola Jerkan. who then fell to the ground.

An FA spokeswoman said:
"We will be asking for their observations before deciding what action to take." Lodge dismissed Wright for violent conduct, which carries an automatic three-match ban. But he said he would be prepared to look at the video, providing the request came from the FA.

ACROSS

Sandy, a devotee (4) Rounded mass found in

Etonian cliques, perhaps?

shipwreck (8)

way back (4)

cold inside? (7)

10 Negligible number in

11 Variety of good facts in

natural forces (4,2,3)

12 Flat, packed snow on the

13 A farmworker to tremble.

15 Coach reverses, taking

17 Counter base with nails

sticking out of it? (6) 14 Shaped bust's put to work

in a Monroe film (3,4)

21 Poor pay on isle in this group (9)

20 Employer breaking house- 7

road in tunnel (6)

After a poll of European football writers for France Football, Alan Shearer was yesterday placed third behind the winner, Germany's Matthias Sammer, and Barcelona's Brazilian international Ronaldo in the Gold-

en Ball award, otherwise known as European Footballer of the Eric Cantona was seventh. Ilie Dumitrescu's unhappy stay at West Ham appears to be

over. The Romanian is believed to have signed a three-year contract with the Mexican side America Cuidad, but the deal and fee are still to be finalised. Kenny Dalglish was yesterday confirmed as a scout for Rangers.

but he will not be on the Ibrox pay-roll. Dalglish was appointed business development manager for a company run by the Rangers chairman, David Murray. Carnegie Sports International.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

24 Features of cathartic

crises, possibly (15) 25 Level head brings calm

quality (8) 26 Girl's first meeting with

boy, being happy (4)

Equipment carried by

open plane (5)

here? (7)

tramp (9)

gangs of outlaws (8) Butch of keys taken to

Old ruse to provide cures

hanky-panky (6-8) One can take a long time

Perfectly good headlight?

Enthusiastic about pledge,

moreover (4,3,7)

* * * * * * * * *

£500 on the line in this

One of his duties will be helping to recruit players for Rangers.

Gavin Peacock has joined

Queen's Park Rangers from Chelsea. The 29-year-old midfielder, on loan at Loftus Road for the past month, has signed for a fee of £800,000 which will rise to £1m after a certain num-

al of Fifa, football's world governing body, has urged Terry Venables' Australia to bid against England, among others, for the 2006 World Cup. Blatter, in Australia to discuss the 2000 Olympic Games football tournament, said: "If Australia has the courage to get the Olympic Games, it should also have the courage and ini-tiative to ask for the World Cup." Bobby Williamson last night

stepped up from reserve team manager to take charge of Kilmarnock as their new manager until the end of the season.

9 One who lays off a farm-

worker (6) 14 Explain and decode RA's

16 Promoted university com-

18 Appoints agent for pets,

due to be trained (7)

22 Lighter sort of tumble?

23 Spots on dial? (4)

bottom of Spanish steps

talent (9)

on Northern Territory as a 19 One does not reach the

mended? (8)

County make club captain the caretaker

Notes County yesterday followed the lead set by their Premiership neighbours, Nottingham Forest, by appointing their captain as their caretaker manager.

County, next to bottom of the Second Division, have sacked the charts supplied by Juventus. and Steve Thompson. The chair-man, Derek Pavis, who had dismissed reports that the Plymouth manager, Neil Warnock, was to return to Meadow Lane, promoted the captain, Gary Strodder, who will link with the club's record signing, Tony Agana. Murphy and Thompson are the sixth managerial casualties in Pavis's nine-year reign.

The move comes after Forest handed the responsibility for team affairs to Stuart Pearce last Friday after Frank Clark had re-

Fabrizio Ravanelli has accused Premiership clubs of having inadequate training facilities and substandard coaching methods. Middlesbrough's expensive Italian import has taken a swipe

at English football in general and

his own dub in particular, daiming he has to train alone, using a different culture and a different mentality. The English have tons of money but they lack the

organisation of Italian soccer." His remarks on an Italian TV sports show are certain to enrage his manager Bryan Robson, who is anxious to maintain dressing-room harmony after 12 League matches without a win.

The 28-year-old Italian international, signed for £7m in the summer, said: "The training facilities are not adequate. The stadiums are nice but the rest is just not there.

"For example, there are no . gyms and you don't practice very I have to bring the mentality I much. I am forced to train by learned at Juve. We have to find much. I am forced to train by myself, using charts that the Juve trainer faxes to me. English players have a natural gift for running but as for explosiveness and reaction time they can't match the Italians. In soccer you have to do more than run."

top earner on a reported £42,000 a week, has scored 16 goals so far after marking his debut with a hat-trick against Liverpool. But he is now clearly unhappy at being dragged into the relegation quicksand after a bright beginning. The White Feather has been

linked with Manchester United and he admits: "I want to win again. We are in a difficult sitnation and one I did not expect. Before signing with Middlesbrough, promises were made to me and they have not been kept.

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Cup draw has big guns pointing head to head

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWETT

Michael Lynagh may be able to control a rugby ball better than virtually anyone in the world, but when it comes to picking numbered balls out of a hat he is just as susceptible to the fates as the rest of us. Australia's former captain not only gave his club, Saracens, a Pilkington Cup headache yesterday but inflicted a similar condition on almost every other team with a realistic chance of reaching Twickenham in May. Lynagh spared only one of the

Cup favourites in concocning the most competitive sixth-round draw imaginable - Harlequins, 5-2 front runners for the knockout title, will visit rank outsiders Rotherham on 25 January, Most of the remaining ties will be pure theatre. After pairing Sarries with their north London neighbours Wasps, Lynagh wreaked havoc by sending Leicester to final, Bristol to Gloucester and Northampton will feel confident at home to Derek Eves' awk-

Sale to Orrell, Not even ward squad from League Two. Coventry, in a Midlands derby.

quarter-finals. Newcastle, a real Davies, the Bristol coach, dedanget if their demolition of West Hartlepool last Sunday was anything to go by, will expect to see off London Scottish while Wakefield, who gave Bath a tor-rid time at the last-16 stage last season, should pack too much

attacking weaponry for Moseley. Bath-Leicester is a certain sellout, but there is a degree of doubt over the date. If the Tigers beat Toulouse in the Heineken European Cup semifinal at Welford Road on Saturday week, the final, scheduled for 25 January, will force a postponement. Bath, already beaten by the Midlanders in the league this season, have lost only one home Cup tie in 12 years -

Predictably, neither club was

scribed the decision as "barray" and claimed it would damage the development of rugby in England while his counterpart at Gloucester, Richard Hill, dug deeper into the dictionary and came out with "disgusting". Hill, an Eng-land A coach this season, accused the RFU of kowtowing to bigmoney clubs in the Second Di-

vision who have been lobbying hard for two promotion places. Worryingly from the point of view of club solidarity, the Leicester chief executive, Peter Wheeler, yesterday came down firmly behind Gloucester and Bristol, arguing that any change to the relegation rules should have been jointly discussed by representatives of both the governing body and the clubs.

At least the Welsh appear to have solved their differences. Refereer who staged an unprecedented strike last weekend and effectively wiped out the entire senior league programme yesterday accepted a revised pay package from the Welsh Rugby Union. They will now be paid on a sliding scale backdated to late August, with First Division fixtures commanding a £125 fee.
PILKINGTON Clip Shith-round draw: Saracers v Wages, Rotherham v Horleguiss; Barb v Issuester; Waterfield v Misseler; Goucester v Bristor; London Scottesh v Newcastle; Northampton v Covering; Ornel v Sale (Ties to be played on Saturday, 25 January).

sion ties, a couple of dark horses are certain to make the

With two all-Second Divi-

against Leicester in 1991. There will be every bit as much venom at Kingshoim, especially as Gloucester and Bristol have been thrown together in a life or death battle against relegation. Yesterday's anhavoc by sending Leicester to nouncement by the Rugby Foot-Bath for a repeat of last season's ball Union that four sides will

disappear automatically through the trap-door at the end of the season rather than three, as originally agreed, has left the tra-ditional West Country giants vulnerable to the unthinkable.

inclined to send seasonal greetings to the RFU yesterday, Alan

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